



# Victoria Government Gazette

No. S 309 Tuesday 14 November 2006

By Authority: Victorian Government Printer

**Planning and Environment Act 1987**  
**VICTORIA PLANNING PROVISIONS**  
Notice of Approval of Amendment  
Amendment VC44

The Minister for Planning has approved Amendment VC44 to the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria, except the Port of Melbourne Planning Scheme.

The Amendment comes into operation on the date this notice is published in the Government Gazette.

The Amendment changes the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria, except the Port of Melbourne Planning Scheme, by providing for the effective management of native vegetation to reduce the fuel load and fire risk around homes without the need for a planning permit.

Under existing planning provisions a permit is not required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation within 10 metres of a building; or to remove ground fuel within 30 metres of a building. Amendment VC44 provides additional exemptions to:

- Remove or lop any part of a tree overhanging a building used for Accommodation.
- Remove, destroy or lop native vegetation (other than trees) within 30 metres of a building used for Accommodation if needed to manage native grasses and shrub cover. This exemption requires that at least 50 per cent of native shrubs be retained and that native grasses are kept to at least 10 centimetres in height.
- Remove, destroy or lop native vegetation (other than trees) beyond 30 metres of a building used for Accommodation where the vegetation is shrub and heath, medium forest or tall forest. The maximum distance from a building within which vegetation may be removed depends on the vegetation type and slope of the land. This exemption requires the landowner to prepare a plan that identifies these things. The plan is to be submitted to the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

A copy of the Amendment can be inspected, free of charge, during office hours, at all municipal council offices in Victoria and at the Department of Sustainability and Environment: Planning Information Centre, Ground Floor, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne 3002; Port Phillip Region, 30 Prospect Street, Box Hill 3128; North East Region, 35 Sydney Road, Benalla 3672; North West Region, 1 Taylor Street, Epsom 3551; South West Region – Ballarat, 402–406 Mair Street, Ballarat 3350; South West Region – Geelong, 4th Floor, State Government Offices, corner of Fenwick & Little Malop Streets, Geelong 3220; and Gippsland Region, 71 Hotham Street, Traralgon 3844.

GENEVIEVE OVERELL  
Deputy Secretary  
Built Environment  
Department of Sustainability  
and Environment

**SPECIAL**

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