

DEVELOPMENT APLICATION ASSESSMENT REPORT:

Extension of Central Road Cafe, Thredbo Village, Kosciuszko National Park

DA 6999



Assessment under Part 4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

May 2015

ABBREVIATIONS

Alpine SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy (Kosciuszko National Park – Alpine Resorts) 2007
Applicant	Central Road 2625
Consent	This development consent
Department	Department of Planning and Environment
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
EP&A Regulation	Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000
EPI	Environmental Planning Instrument
Minister	Minister for Planning
PCA	Principal Certifying Authority
Secretary	Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment
SEE	Statement of Environmental Effects
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy

Cover Image: Central Road Café Extension Area (Source: Department site inspection photo)

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1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

This report provides an assessment of a Development Application (DA 6999) lodged by Central Road 2625 on 24 March 2015 under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* (EP&A Act) that seeks consent for an extension of the existing Central Road Café, Thredbo Village within the Kosciuszko National Park.

The proposal is described in detail in **Section 2** of this report.

1.2 The site and surrounding development

The subject site is located in the Thredbo Village Square, a shopping precinct within the Thredbo Alpine Resort. The site is located adjacent to a small commercial café which sells food and beverages. The proposal is to take place within an adjoining retail space approximately 29m² that is currently being used as storage for the Central Road Cafe.

The surrounding development is characterised by commercial outlets including a real estate agency, bakery, clothing retailers, restaurants and bars.



Figure 1: Site Location (Source: Six Maps 2015)

1.3 Related application

On 12 December 2013, DA 6304 was approved for the Central Road Café to refit the kitchen and dining area. The proposed extension, under assessment in this report, into the adjacent space is consistent with the original approved application and use.

2. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The development application seeks approval for the following:

- extension of the existing café into the adjacent space; and
- installation of shelving, fridges, freezers, steel bench tops, and sinks.

The proposed extension involves the installation of an internal door between the current café and the adjacent space. That would be accessed by staff only from behind the counter area of the existing café. The new area would be used for storage and take-away coffee sales at an approximate 70/30 split or approximately 20m² and 9m² of take-away coffee shop. The storage area will comprise shelving, fridges and freezers and the coffee sales area will comprise of a customer area and entry at the front of the shop and stainless steel benches with two sinks and floor waste.

All materials used will be of a commercial grade to ensure durability and appropriate function. Bench tops will be made from stainless steel. A dedicated hand-wash basin will be included in the kitchen and will be of an appropriate size and design to meet food safety standards. Taps will be of a style that allows operation without using hands.

The primary purpose of the proposal is to create a larger storage area and cater to high demand for take-away coffees.



Figure 2: Proposed extension plan (Source: Applicant's submitted plan)

3. STATUTORY CONTEXT

3.1. Consent Authority

The Minister for Planning is the consent authority for the application under clause 7 of *State Environmental Planning Policy (Kosciuszko National Park – Alpine Resorts) 2007* (the Alpine SEPP) as the development takes place within a ski resort area as referred to in Clause 32C (2)(a) of Schedule 6 to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

3.2. Determination under Delegation

The Minister for Planning has delegated responsibility for the determination of development under Part 4 of the EP&A Act to the Team Leader, Alpine Resorts Team where:

- the application is in relation to land which the Alpine SEPP applies; and
- there are less than 25 public submissions in the nature of objections.

The proposal complies with the terms of delegation as the application relates to land which the Alpine SEPP applies and no public submissions were received in the nature of objections.

Accordingly, the Team Leader, Alpine Resorts Team may determine the application in accordance with the Minister's delegation.

3.3. Permissibility

Pursuant to clause 11 of the Alpine SEPP and the Thredbo Alpine Resort land use table, 'food outlets' are permissible with consent.

3.4. Environmental Planning Instruments

The Alpine SEPP is the only environmental planning instrument (EPI) which applies to the site for this type of development. An assessment against the requirements of the Alpine SEPP is provided in **Appendix B**. In summary, the Department is satisfied that the application is consistent with the requirements of the Alpine SEPP.

3.5. Objects of the EP&A Act

Decisions made under the EP&A Act must have regard to the objects of the Act, as set out in Section 5 of the Act and read as follows:

(a) to encourage:

- (i) the proper management, development and conservation of natural and artificial resources, including agricultural land, natural areas, forests, minerals, water, cities, towns and villages for the purpose of promoting the social and economic welfare of the community and a better environment,
- (ii) the promotion and co-ordination of the orderly and economic use and development of land,
- (iii) the protection, provision and co-ordination of communication and utility services,
- (iv) the provision of land for public purposes,
- (v) the provision and co-ordination of community services and facilities, and
- (vi) the protection of the environment, including the protection and conservation of native animals and plants, including threatened species, populations and ecological communities, and their habitats, and
- (vii) ecologically sustainable development, and

(viii) the provision and maintenance of affordable housing, and

- (b) to promote the sharing of the responsibility for environmental planning between the different levels of government in the State, and
- (c) to provide increased opportunity for public involvement and participation in environmental planning and assessment.

The proposal is consistent with the above objects, particularly (a)(ii) and (vii) as the proposal promotes the orderly and economic use of the site and is ecologically sustainable. Further discussion on compliance with the above is provided in **Appendix B**.

3.6. Ecologically Sustainable Development

The EP&A Act adopts the definition of Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) found in the *Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991*. Section 6(2) of that Act states that ESD requires the effective integration of economic and environmental considerations in decision-making processes and that ESD can be achieved through the implementation of:

- (a) the precautionary principle;
- (b) inter-generational equity;
- (c) conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity; and
- (d) improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms.

The Department has considered the proposed development in relation to the ESD principles and has made the following conclusions:

Precautionary Principle – The proposal does not pose a threat of serious or irreversible environmental damage. Due to the works being within the existing building, the proposal does not have an impact on any threatened species, populations, ecological communities or their habitats.

Inter-Generational Equity – The proposal will not adversely impact upon the health, diversity or productivity of the environment for future generations.

Biodiversity Principle – The proposal would not result in a loss of biodiversity as there would be no disturbance to any native vegetation. All works are within the existing building footprint.

Valuation Principle – Due to the minor nature of the works, there is minimal environmental impact as a result of the proposal.

3.7. Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000

Subject to any other references to compliance with the EP&A Regulation cited in this report, the requirements for Notification (Part 6, Division 7) and Fees (Part 15, Division 1) have been complied with.

4. CONSULTATION AND SUBMISSIONS

After accepting the application, the Department placed the application on its website and notified six nearby commercial operations. No public submissions were received during the assessment of the application.

The proposal was referred to the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) pursuant to clause 17 of the Alpine SEPP.

The OEH raised no objections to the proposal, however recommended consideration of the Food Act 2003 and Food Safety Standards. Initially the OEH Environmental Health Officer requested further information regarding materials and details of fittings and fixtures. This was subsequently provided by the applicant and considered satisfactory.

Conditions are recommended to ensure compliance with these documents and relevant food premises requirements.

5. ASSESSMENT

5.1. Section 79C Evaluation

Table 1 identifies the matters for consideration under section 79C of the EP&A Act that apply to the development. The table also represents a summary for which additional information and consideration is provided for in **Section 5.2** (Key and Other Issues), the appendix or other sections of this report, referenced in the table.

Table 1: Section 79C(1) Matters for Consideration

Section 79C(1) Evaluation	Consideration
(a)(i) any environmental planning instrument	Satisfactorily complies - see Section 3.4 and Appendix B of this report.
(a)(ii) any proposed instrument	Not applicable.
(a)(iii) any development control plan	Not applicable.
(a)(iiia) any planning agreement	Not applicable.
(a)(iv) the regulations	Complies - The application satisfactorily meets the relevant requirements of the EP&A Regulation.
(a)(v) any coastal zone management plan	Not applicable.
(b) the likely impacts of that development	Impacts of the development have been considered in Section 5.2 and additional detail is provided in Appendix B of this report.
(c) the suitability of the site for the development	The suitability of the site has been considered in Section 5.3 of this report.
(d) any submissions	Consideration has been given to submissions received during the exhibition of the application in Section 4 . Key issues raised in submissions have been considered further in Section 5.2 of this report.
(e) the public interest	The public interest of the development has been considered in Section 5.4 of this report.
Biodiversity values impact assessment not required if:	Not applicable.
(a) On biodiversity certified land	
(b) Biobanking Statement exists	

5.2. Key and Other Issues

The Department has considered the objectives of section 79C of the EP&A Act, the SEE and issues raised in submissions in its assessment of the proposal. The Department considers that the key issues associated with the proposal to be:

5.2.1. Compliance with the Building Code of Australia (BCA)

The proposal is required to comply with the BCA and relevant Australian Standards. Based on the plans and documents that were submitted, the Department is satisfied that BCA compliance can be achieved.

The Department is satisfied with the documentation that has been provided. Conditions of consent are recommended to ensure that BCA compliance is addressed at the Construction Certificate stage.

5.2.2. Food Safety

Given the nature of the facility being a commercial food and beverage outlet, the proposal is required to comply with the Food Act 2003 and the Australian Safety Food Standards. Comments received from the OEH advised that, the additional information provided by the applicant is sufficient to demonstrate compliance with the Food Act 2003. Based on the plans and documents that were submitted, and comments from OEH, the Department is satisfied that compliance with the Food Act and relevant standards can be achieved.

Conditions have been recommended to ensure that the premises is designed and constructed in an appropriate manner without any risk to public health.

5.3. Suitability of the Site

The proposed extension is suitable for the site. The alterations improve the food preparation area of the building without having any adverse environmental impacts.

The works will not increase the footprint of the building or impact any adjoining property or vegetation. Construction works can be appropriately managed to avoid or mitigate any adverse impacts.

5.4. Public Interest

The proposed development is considered to be consistent with the aim and objectives of the Alpine SEPP and the public interest would not be compromised by the proposal. There would also not be an adverse impact on the environment and the proposal is consistent with the principles of ESD.

6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

6.1. Conclusion

The Department has assessed the merits of the proposal taking into consideration the issues raised in all submissions and is satisfied that the impacts have been satisfactorily addressed within the proposal and the recommended conditions.

In relation to the proposal, the Department considers that:

- the proposed works will not have an impact on threatened species, populations and ecological communities;
- construction works will be undertaken in accordance with the BCA, Food Act, and relevant Australian Standards; and
- the proposal is appropriate and does not impact upon any adjoining properties.

Overall, the Department is satisfied that the Development Application has been appropriately designed and recommends that the application be approved subject to the imposition of conditions.

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6.2. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Team Leader, Alpine Resorts Team, as delegate of the Minister for Planning:

- a) **consider** all relevant matters prescribed in section 79C of the EP&A Act, including the findings and recommendations of this report; and
- b) approve the Development Application (DA 6999), under section 80(1)(a) of the EP&A Act, having considered matters in accordance with (a) above, and sign the Notice of Determination at Appendix C.

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APPENDIX A. RELEVANT SUPPORTING INFORMATION / SUBMISSIONS

The following supporting documents and information to this assessment report can be found on the Department's website at:

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=6999

APPENDIX B. CONSIDERATION OF RELEVANT LEGISLATION

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

To satisfy the requirements of section 79C(a)(i) of the EP&A Act, this report includes references to the provisions of the environmental planning instruments that govern the carrying out of the project and have been taken into consideration in the environmental assessment of the project.

Section 79C (1) of the EP&A Act

In determining a DA, a consent authority must take into consideration the matters referred to in section 79C(1) of the EP&A Act as are relevant to the development. **Section 5.1** of this report details consideration of the matters in section 79C(1), however a detailed consideration of the likely impacts of the development is provided below:

S 79C(1)(b) the likely impacts of that development

<u>Context and setting</u> – The proposed works are minor in nature and will be consistent with the context and setting of the locality. The works are internal only and will not impact the character of the locality. The use of the space as a food and beverage outlet is consistent with other uses in the locality.

<u>Access, transport and traffic</u> – The proposal will not increase traffic to the site or impact upon access, transport or traffic management within the resort.

<u>Public domain</u> – The proposed works will not impact upon the public domain. The works are internal only and will have a positive impact on the public domain through the activation of a currently vacant commercial space.

<u>Utilities and energy</u> – Energy and utility requirements will not be altered by the proposal.

<u>Heritage</u> – The proposal will not impact upon any European or Aboriginal archaeological heritage items.

Other land resources – The proposed works do not impact on other land resources.

<u>Water</u> – There will be a minor increase on water usage at the site as the proposed coffee area will be connected to and use water. A condition has been recommended regarding water efficiency of appliance and fittings.

<u>Soils</u> – The proposed works will not impact on soils. Internal works only, no excavation.

<u>Noise and vibration</u> – There will be a minor increase in noise and vibration during construction which will be short term and managed in accordance with conditions of consent.

<u>Air and microclimate</u> – Impacts in this regard will be small-scale and short-term during construction and involve primarily, construction activities. These will be managed in accordance with conditions of consent. No long term impacts are expected.

<u>Flora and fauna</u> – The proposed works do not impact upon flora or fauna. The works are internal only and no flora or fauna will be impacted.

<u>Waste</u> – The proposal will not have a significant impact on waste at the site. Waste will be managed as in the same manner as at present. The proposal will include a floor waste drain in the new area.

<u>Natural hazards</u> – The site bushfire prone land however the internal alterations do not require referral to the NSW RFS under Section 100B of the *Rural Fires Act*. There are no other known natural hazards that affect the proposal.

<u>Technological hazards</u> – The proposal is required to comply with the BCA and relevant Australian Standards. Compliance with the Food Act 2003 is also necessary. These matters can be addressed prior to the issue of the construction certificate. No concerns are raised in relation to the proposal.

<u>Safety</u>, <u>security</u> and <u>crime prevention</u> – The proposed works will have no impact on safety, security and crime prevention.

<u>Social impact</u> – The social impacts are positive in that the café will be able to better meet the demand.

Economic impact – The proposal is minor in scale and will have a minor positive economic impact.

<u>Site design and internal design</u> – The proposal is appropriate and the design will enable the café to meet the demand for take-away coffee while complying with relevant legislation.

Construction – The construction of the proposal will have minimal impacts.

<u>Cumulative impacts</u> – No cumulative impacts are envisaged as a result of this proposal.

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING POLICY (KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK – ALPINE RESORTS) 2007

CI 2 – Aim and objectives:

The proposal is considered to be consistent with the aim and objectives of the Alpine SEPP in that it is consistent with the principles of ESD and consists of an extension to an existing commercial premise. The proposal improves upon the health and safety of the existing kitchen.

CI 11 – Land Use Table

The proposal is for an extension to an existing cafe. Pursuant to clause 11 of the Alpine SEPP and the Thredbo Land Use Table, 'food outlets' are permissible with consent.

Cl 14(1) – Matters to be considered by consent authority

(a) the aim and objectives of this policy, as set out in clause 2	See discussion above.
(b) the conservation of the natural environment and any measures to mitigate environmental hazards (including geotechnical hazards, bush fires and flooding),	Due to the works being wholly within the building and not increasing the size or scale of the building, no impact is expected on the natural environment.
(c) the cumulative impacts of development on existing transport, effluent management systems, waste disposal facilities or transfer facilities,	The proposal does not modify the capacity or use of the existing building. The subject site contains the necessary infrastructure and services to support the

and existing water supply	development as proposed.
(d) any statement of environmental effects,	The SEE and supporting information supplied are considered adequate to enable a proper assessment of the proposal.
(e) the character of the alpine resort,	The proposal will not alter the character of the resort, the works are internal only.
(f) the Geotechnical Policy – Kosciuszko Alpine Resorts,	Not applicable for this type of development. The proposal is exempt under the policy.
(g) any sedimentation and erosion control measures,	No adverse impacts are expected, works are entirely internal.
(h) any stormwater drainage works proposed,	The existing storm water drainage system is adequate for the proposed works.
(i) any visual impact of the proposed development, particularly when viewed from the Main Range,	The proposal will not result in an unacceptable visual impact. The proposal is for minor internal building works only.
(j) any significant increase in activities, outside of the ski season,	The proposal will not result in a significant increase in activities outside the ski season.
(k) if the development involves the installation of ski lifting facilities	The proposal does not involve the installation of any new ski lifting facilities.
(I) if the development is proposed to be carried out in Perisher Range Alpine Resort: the document entitled Perisher Range Resorts Master Plan and the document entitled Perisher Blue Ski Slope Master Plan	Not applicable to this development.
(m) if the development is proposed to be carried out on land in a riparian corridor:	The works are not within 40 metres of any riparian land.
CI 17 – applications referred to the Offic	e of Environment and Heritage (OEH)
The proposal was referred to the OE objections to the proposal were raised f	EH pursuant to clause 17 of the Alpine SEPP. No rom OEH.
Cl 26 – Heritage conservation	
European heritage	The proposal will not impact on any European heritage items.
Aboriginal heritage	Due to works being alterations only, the proposal will not impact on any Aboriginal heritage items.

APPENDIX C. RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF CONSENT