



## Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc

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### Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow

The Hon. Anthony Roberts MP  
Minister for Planning and Minister for Homes  
GPO Box 5341  
SYDNEY NSW 2001  
By email:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/nsw-government/ministers/minister-for-planning-and-homes>

2 May 2022

Dear Minister,

#### **Draft State Environmental Planning Policy (Design and Place) 2021**

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society is a community-based volunteer organisation with 900 members (or approximately one in 50 adults in the Blue Mountains). The Society's mission is to help protect, conserve and advocate for the environment of the Greater Blue Mountains.


The Society welcomed the NSW Government's decision to update the BASIX to help people build comfortable homes, save people money on their power bills and contribute to the NSW Government's net zero target.<sup>i</sup>

However, the Society wishes to express its concern at the Government's decision to abandon the draft Design and Place SEPP. The draft SEPP would have helped achieve those objectives.

The Society requests that in your continuing consideration of how to build quality, affordable homes you ensure that the following provisions of the draft Design and Place SEPP are implemented promptly:

- BASIX thermal performance and energy standards of the same standard as the draft SEPP, together with the *net zero statement* required by clause 57D of the draft Regulations. These measures will provide immediate, practical and tangible steps towards the NSW Government target of net zero emissions by 2050;
- Site and locality-specific objectives and design guidance for tree canopy, deep soil and retention of mature trees. These measures will make urban areas cooler, more attractive, provide habitat for birds, reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality.

Yours sincerely

Madi Maclean  
President  
Blue Mountains Conservation Society  
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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/News/2022/More-homes-and-liveable-communities-for-NSW>