



*New South Wales  
Amateur Pistol Association Inc.*

ABN 35 851 639 906

*Supported by:*  
N.S.W. Department of  
Sport and Recreation

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Ms Sarah McGirr  
Manager, Industry and Infrastructure Policy  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
By email [sarah.mcgirr@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sarah.mcgirr@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Sarah

The NSWAPA would like to thank the Minister, The Honourable Brad Hazard and all the Planning Staff for organising and facilitating the recent workshop on the new proposed SEPP relating to shooting ranges.

Those of us who were present at your table (Pistol shooters from St Ives, Blacktown, and the Sport Administrator and me, President of the NSWAPA) were very impressed by the candour of both yourself and the Minister in particular, and especially the apparent lack of preconceptions about us.

This submission in regard to this SEPP is that we currently have situations arising where a legal Ruling by the Land and Environment Court and subsequent interpretation by Firearms Registry (FAR) means that they are not differentiating the actual Shooting Range itself from the Range Danger Area (RDA).

The fallout from this is that FAR expect all our ranges to control (make sure no persons enter) the Range Danger Area, which would usually comprise several square kilometres of heavily timbered bushland. This, I am sure you would agree, is absurdly impossible.

We can understand that there may be one Zoning for Ranges but we must have a separation of the Range and RDA, both in definition and permissible use.

The best way to explain this situation and difference between the two is that the actual Shooting Range is where the firearms are discharged and the projectiles are contained within by means of "Baffles and Butt Stops". The RDA is an area where it is possible for a projectile to enter through an inadvertent action, and in many situations it is possible that no projectiles have ever entered this area.

**The "Permissible Use" of the two areas, may seem to be identical but this couldn't be further from the truth. It is illegal to discharge a firearm in the Range Danger Area!**

If the Department of Planning and Infrastructure can differentiate between the Range and the Range Danger Area this would greatly help us preserve our sport.

Kindest Regards

Brian Cheers  
President NSWAPA