

Review of the native vegetation clearing regulations – summary of proposed changes to the Victoria Planning Provisions

52.17 Dead vegetation exemption

Especially in light of forestry definitions there may be confusion about what constitutes a dead standing tree or a stump. This problem can be overcome if the minimum height of a dead standing tree in the exemption is specified at 3 meters.

52.17 Existing buildings exemption

The native vegetation location of 10 meters from the outermost part of an existing building needs to be specified as a horizontal distance.

The draft Native vegetation clearing – assessment guidelines

- The definition of a native canopy tree needs clarifying in the context of a “mature canopy tree greater than 3 meters in height” “Mature” can be variously defined as reproductively mature or some subjectively defined minimum height.. Potentially a 3 meter high eucalypt sapling with buds could be thought of as a mature canopy tree. Potentially in the definitions of a patch and scattered tree the wording could state “native canopy tree **species**” with the word “mature” defined clearly or dropped from the definition of a native canopy tree.
- Table 5 Point 14 Greater clarity should be given in the wording for the maps whether they be modelled maps or physical on-ground mapping of rare and threatened species.