



EDO Qld.

Environmental Defenders Office

*Using the law to protect
our environment.*

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Key Planning Terms	
SPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i> (Qld)• Primary planning legislation currently – to be superseded in 2017 by the <i>Planning Act 2016</i>
SPR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009</i> (Qld)• Key planning regulation currently – to be superseded in 2017 by the <i>Planning Regulation 2017</i>
Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary legislation made by Parliament – must pass 3 readings and receive Royal Assent by Governor in Council• Parliamentary committee inquiry process normally applies• A ‘Bill’ is proposed primary legislation that is as yet unpassed
Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subordinate legislation (approved by Governor in Council)• Drafted by Office of Queensland Parliamentary Council• Can be subject to disallowance motion• May be subject to Parliamentary committee inquiry, not guaranteed
Rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under new Planning Act - made by the Minister, not made by Parliament• The rules proposed contain detail on development assessment and plan making• Public notification of amendments required by Planning Act
Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under new Planning Act – made by Minister• The guidelines proposed contain detail on infrastructure designation• Not always required to be publically notified
Planning instrument	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning instruments set out State or local government objectives for an area and how these objectives will be achieved, e.g. a planning scheme (or ‘local categorising instrument’ in Bill)• Determine whether a development application is required and whether it is code or impact assessable• Contain the criteria that development applications are to be assessed against

Development categories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessable (require approval): code or impact • Non-assessable (do not require approval): accepted or self-assessable. (In Planning Act: all ‘accepted’)
Code assessable development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessable development that is only assessed against particular codes (Proposed by Planning Bill: ‘assessment benchmarks’) • No public notification is provided
Impact assessable development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessable development that is assessed more comprehensively against codes/ benchmarks and any other matter • Public notification required, for differing time frames • Usually considered to be higher risk development proposals
Assessment manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assesses and decides the development application • Usually local government or SARA
SARA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Assessment Referral Agency • Unit of the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
Referral agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government entities that have an interest in the development (as specified in the legislation) • May direct the assessment manager, or only provide advice to assessment manager (as specified in the legislation) • Most specialist departments (e.g. DEHP) are advice only – previously had ‘concurrence agency’ status and could direct
IDAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Integrated Development Assessment System’ • Development assessment process under SPA • No longer a term used under the new Planning framework – development assessment process provided under the Development Assessment Rules