

Native Vegetation Assessment Panel – Frequently asked questions

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WHAT DOES THE NATIVE VEGETATION ASSESSMENT PANEL DO?

The Native Vegetation Assessment Panel (often called NVAP) makes decisions in relation to the clearance of native vegetation. The sub committee was formed in 2007 to make decisions on a number of native vegetation issues. It consists of three members with three deputies. This structure offers a small responsive panel, allowing prompt decisions to be made. The NVAP has delegation to:

- make decisions on native vegetation clearance applications, including conditions of consent;
- make decisions under the Native Vegetation Regulations, including Significant Environmental Benefit (SEB) conditions;
- approve local council roadside vegetation management plans;
- make decisions on mining and major project SEBs;
- make decisions on applications for native vegetation clearance associated with house sites;
- make decisions on Heritage Agreements (HA's);
- hear representations from landholders regarding applications and projects; and
- make decisions on the initiation of civil proceedings for unauthorized clearance of native vegetation.

HOW OFTEN DOES NVAP MEET?

NVAP meets every 6-8 weeks dependant on work requirements.

HOW FAR IN ADVANCE OF AN NVAP MEETING ARE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED?

Clearance applications and supporting Data Reports are assessed/audited prior to going to NVAP. Consultant reports are required 7 weeks prior to the meeting. Please note, Clearance Application forms, signed by the landholder, must be received before the auditing of Data Reports will be undertaken.

Agenda items close 2 weeks prior to meetings. Applications for Heritage Agreements and all other types of business are submitted by staff once fully compiled.

Items received after the deadlines, or those requiring additional work before they are ready to be presented to the Panel; will be scheduled for the following meeting.

HOW LONG AFTER AN NVAP MEETING BEFORE APPLICANTS ARE ADVISED OF A DECISION?

Decisions are normally advised within 1 week after an NVAP meeting.

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