

Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme

Amendment C145macr

In partnership with a
Healthy Coliban Catchment



About this factsheet

The purpose of this document is to highlight some commonly asked questions about Amendment C145macr to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme, and to provide information on how this change could affect the management of your property.

What is the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 4 (ESO4) – Eppalock Proclaimed Catchment?

The ESO4 is a control in the planning scheme that aims to protect the Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment (SWSC) from inappropriate development. The Eppalock SWSC provides drinking water to 130,000 residents and supports the agricultural districts and townships in the north-western part of the Macedon Ranges Shire.

When was ESO4 placed over my property?

The ESO4 was introduced on 8 June 2000. Whilst minor amendments have been made over the years, the extent of the Eppalock SWSC has stayed the same.

What is a planning scheme amendment?

A planning scheme amendment is a legal process governed by requirements of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and is being used to change the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme. An amendment may be used to implement a new strategy or plan, to update local policies, to correct an anomaly or error, or to rezone land.

Who has requested this amendment?

The amendment has been made at the request of Coliban Water and is an outcome of the Healthy Coliban Catchment project. More information about the Healthy Coliban Catchment Project: connect.coliban.com.au/healthy-coliban-catchment

What does Amendment C145macr do?

The amendment:

- Replaces the existing ESO4 with the proposed new ESO4. The new ESO4 reduces permit requirements, only asks for information that is needed to assess applications and ensures that development that impacts the catchment requires a planning permit under this provision.
- Amends Clause 66.04 which alters how applications are referred for assessment.
- Introduces the Upper Coliban Integrated Catchment Management Plan (North Central Catchment Management Authority and Coliban Region Water Corporation 2019) to Clause 72.08 as a background document supporting the amended Schedule 4 to Clause 42.01.

What land is affected by the amendment?

The ESO4 covers about a third of the Macedon Ranges including the townships of Woodend, Kyneton, Malmesbury and Lauriston, and all the rural land within the Upper Coliban Catchment area. The Eppalock Special Water Supply Catchment also stretches into the municipalities of Mount Alexander, Hepburn and Greater Bendigo.



Why is the amendment required?

The incorrect disposal of domestic wastewater can potentially impact on the quality of drinking water in the shire's towns and business and destroy our environment.

It is important that developments that require on-site treatment of sewerage (i.e. a septic tank) within close proximity of our creeks and rivers are appropriately regulated.

The amendment is required to ensure developments that will not affect the creeks and rivers in the catchment will not have unnecessary planning regulation. The amendment seeks to revise ESO4 to ensure only developments that require domestic wastewater disposal that will impact on our rivers and creeks require planning approval.

This is important to balance the needs of development with needs to protect the catchment's important water supplies and the local environment. Avoiding the need to prepare and submit planning permits represents significant cost savings to landholders, Council, and Coliban Water.

How does the amendment affect me?

This amendment will reduce the number of circumstances in which landholders covered by the ESO4 will require a planning permit. It does not affect other zones and overlays that might affect your property and require a planning permit separately. In particular, this amendment exempts:

- Buildings and works associated with dwellings located more than 30 metres from a waterway and connected to reticulated sewerage.
- Buildings and works (general) that are located more than 30 metres from a waterway and meet other specific conditions.
- Subdivision of land into lots of 40 hectares or greater.
- Subdivision of an existing building connected to reticulated water and sewerage.
- Removal, destruction, or lopping of native vegetation beyond 30 metres of a waterway.

Does the amendment protect the environment?

Yes, these proposed changes still protect important waterways by requiring a permit for the removal, lopping and destruction of native vegetation within 30 metres of a waterway.

The amendment seeks to reduce the requirements for planning permits where they are not required to protect local waterways and the catchment, but still require permits where proposals may impact negatively on the catchment.



Will Amendment C145macr to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme affect my rates?

No, this amendment will not affect your Council rates notice.

How can I find out more?

A copy of all amendment documentation is available for viewing on Council's website at

mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay or at:

- Kyneton Administration Centre, 129 Mollison Street, Kyneton
- Woodend Community Centre and Library, corner of Forest and High Streets, Woodend
- Gisborne Administration Centre, 40 Robertson Street, Gisborne
- Romsey Hub, 96-100 Main Street, Romsey
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website
delwp.vic.gov.au/public-inspection

For more information, call Council's Strategic Planning unit on **(03) 5422 0333** or email **mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au**

How do I make a submission?

Any person who may be affected by the amendment may make a submission. It is important to note that submissions to planning scheme amendments are public documents under the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Submissions must be made in writing and include the submitter's name and contact address, clearly stating the grounds on which the amendment is supported or opposed and indicating what changes (if any) the submitter wishes to make. The planning authority must make a copy of every submission available at its office for any person to inspect during office hours free of charge until the end of two months after the amendment comes into operation or lapses.

A submission must be sent to **Macedon Ranges Shire Council, PO Box 151, Kyneton VIC 3444**

or emailed to **mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au**

Hard copies of submissions can also be submitted in-person at any of Council's customer service centres.

What are the next steps?

The planning scheme amendment process is a statutory process that is transparent and public, where all parties affected can provide input into the amendment.

Council must consider all submissions it receives in relation to Amendment C145macr to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme.

All submitters will be notified accordingly at each stage of the amendment process.

The closing date for submissions is 24 November 2022.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and waterways. Council recognises their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Council also acknowledges local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents of Macedon Ranges for their ongoing contribution to the diverse culture of our community.

