

## SC6.4 Planning scheme policy for the acid sulfate soils overlay code

### SC6.4.1 Purpose

The purpose of this planning scheme policy is to:-

- (a) provide advice about achieving outcomes in the **Acid sulfate soils overlay code**; and
- (b) identify and provide guidance about information that may be required to support a development application where subject to the **Acid sulfate soils overlay code**.

Note—nothing in this planning scheme policy limits Council's discretion to request relevant information under the Development Assessment Rules made under section 68(1) of the Act.

### SC6.4.2 Application

This planning scheme policy applies to assessable development which requires assessment against the **Acid sulfate soils overlay code**.

### SC6.4.3 Advice for acid sulfate soils overlay code outcomes

The following is advice for achieving outcomes in the Acid sulfate soils overlay code relating to the avoidance and management of acid sulfate soils:-

- (a) compliance with Performance Outcome PO1 of **Table 8.2.1.3.1 (Performance outcomes and acceptable outcomes for assessable development)** of the **Acid sulfate soils overlay code** may be demonstrated in part or aided by the submission of an acid sulfate soils investigation report and, if acid sulfate soils are to be disturbed by development, an acid sulfate soils management plan, prepared by a competent person in accordance with Section **SC6.4.4 (Guidance for the preparation of an acid sulfate soils investigation report and management plan)**.

Note—for the purposes of this planning scheme policy, a competent person is a Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS) Stage 2 or 3, with suitable experience in acid sulfate soils.

### SC6.4.4 Guidance for the preparation of an acid sulfate soils investigation report and management plan

#### Acid sulfate soils investigation report

- (1) An acid sulfate soils investigation report is to be prepared in accordance with:-
  - (a) the *State Planning Policy December 2013* and *State Planning Policy Guideline: State interest – emissions and hazardous activities - Guidance on acid sulfate soils December 2013*; and
  - (b) the procedures described in the most up to date version of the *Guidelines for Sampling and Analysis of Lowland Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS) in Queensland 1998* (Ahern et al, 1998).
- (2) An acid sulfate soils investigation report is to describe through detailed sampling, analysis (including groundwater analysis) and interpretation:-
  - (a) the presence, extent and intensity of any actual acid sulfate soils (AASS) and potential acid sulfate soils (PASS) present on the site; and
  - (b) the implications for design, construction and operation of the proposed development.

#### Acid sulfate soils management plan

- (3) An acid sulfate soils management plan is to be prepared in accordance with the most recent version of the Queensland Acid Sulfate Soil Technical Manual.
- (4) An acid sulfate soils management plan is to properly address, describe or include the following:-
  - (a) the mapped extent of the AASS or PASS;

- (b) a detailed description of the depth and location of all ASS identified;
- (c) the methodology used for sampling and analysis (both field and laboratory);
- (d) the ASS management practices to be implemented that will achieve any or all of the following:-
  - (i) prevention of the oxidation of pyrite (including avoiding the disturbance of ASS by excavation or changes to groundwater levels);
  - (ii) treatment or management of the ASS (which may include burial, neutralisation, and separation and treatment);
  - (iii) prevention, control or minimisation of the escape of acid sulfate leachate to the surrounding environment; and
  - (iv) neutralisation of acid leachate from AASS;
- (e) the details of any pilot project or field trial to be undertaken to prove the effectiveness of any new technology or innovative management practice being proposed;
- (f) the monitoring and reporting procedures to be established and implemented;
- (g) a contingency plan and accident emergency response procedures; and
- (h) performance criteria to be used to assess the effectiveness of the ASS management and monitoring measures.