



HASTINGS COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE SERVICES
MEDIA RELEASE

BASIX Countdown!

Tuesday 7 June, 2005

Hastings Council is counting down the days until the new BASIX (Building Sustainability Index) regulations come into effect on 1 July, 2005. BASIX is a web-based planning tool designed by the State Government to introduce mandatory water and energy efficiency requirements for buildings. By implementing this system, the State Government aims to save 287 billion litres of water and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 9.5 million tonnes within the first decade.

From July 2005, all development applications for new residential dwellings in NSW must be submitted with a BASIX Certificate. BASIX will also apply to new residential multi-unit developments from July 2005 and to alterations and additions from October 2005. This means that prior to being able to lodge a development or complying development application for single or multi-unit residential developments, the applicant must obtain a BASIX Certificate using the on-line assessment tool.

"Given the potential number of certificates involved and the complexity of the system Council have agreed to establish a role for a BASIX Certificate Officer who would assist the people, local development and building industry who are undertaking the BASIX assessment," said Hastings Mayor Rob Drew at a recent Council meeting.

The assessment will require developers to input information about the proposed development, such as site location, dwelling size, floor area, landscaped area and services. BASIX compares the proposed development to average existing homes and gives a score based on the developments potential to consume less mains supply water and energy than an average existing home.

Hastings Council has joined with local builder Rob Tate to design and build an energy efficient and water wise home. The 'Beach House', part of the Rainbow Beach Estate in Bonny Hills, is one of the first local homes to fulfill the new BASIX Regulation and showcases practical and affordable water and energy efficient features. The Department of Infrastructure Planning and Natural Resources has selected the display house as a regional case study, which will be featured on the BASIX website. An open day will be conducted on Saturday, 18 June 2004 from 9 am to 1 pm to give the community the opportunity to speak to representatives from Council, WaterWise and Country Energy.

As well, Council's Competitive Services Unit will be running free introductory courses for builders on the BASIX web-based assessment tool. Builders can obtain more information on the Course by contacting Tim Jurmann on 6581 8643.

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**For further information please contact Tim Jurmann, Competitive Services
Coordinator, Hastings Council on 0438 818 017.**

Executive Services, Hastings Council

If you do not receive the complete message telephone F (02) 6581 8111