

**DIRECTION NO.20**

**MAJOR HAZARD FACILITIES**

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**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this Direction is to require planning authorities to seek and have regard to the views of WorkSafe Victoria and the Minister for Industry and Advanced Manufacturing when preparing a planning scheme amendment which rezones land for, or is within the threshold distance of, a major hazard facility.

**Objective**

2. The aim of this Direction is to minimise potential human and property exposure from the risk of incidents that may occur at a major hazard facility and ensure their ongoing viability.

**Definition**

3. In this Direction:
  - **major hazard facility** has the same meaning as in the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017*;
  - **approved major hazard facility** means a major hazard facility that has been licensed or registered under the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017* but has not yet commenced operating.
  - **threshold distance** means the distance specified opposite the type of production, use or storage listed in the table to Clause 53.10-1 of the applicable planning scheme. If the type of production, use or storage is not listed in the table to Clause 53.10-1 of the applicable planning scheme, the threshold distance is 1000 metres.

**Application**

4. This Direction applies to the preparation of a planning scheme amendment that provides for:
  - a. a new major hazard facility.
  - b. the expansion of an existing major hazard facility.
  - c. any change to planning controls within a threshold distance of an existing or approved major hazard facility.

*Note:* A threshold distance is measured from the outer property boundary of an existing or approved major hazard facility.

**Requirement**

5. In preparing a planning scheme amendment, a planning authority must:

- Seek the views of WorkSafe Victoria and the Minister for Industry and Advanced Manufacturing about the amendment.
- Include in the explanatory report a statement about how the amendment addresses the views of WorkSafe Victoria and the Minister for Industry and Advanced Manufacturing.

### **Exemption by Minister**

6. The Minister may grant an exemption from the need to comply with this Direction in relation to an amendment. An exemption may be granted subject to conditions.

**SONYA KILKENNY MP**

Minister for Planning

Date: 19 June 2026

| Commencement Details |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Commenced            | 13 July 2026 |