



## POSITION STATEMENT SUMMARY

# Exemption from fire safety standards

## Position

Effective 29 April 2024, the following is a position of Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW):

FRNSW will not grant any exemption from fire safety standards, made under s111 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021*, that involves the total deletion of any required hydraulic Category 3 fire safety provision (e.g. a required fire hydrant system).

**Note:** Total deletion of any hydraulic fire safety provision required by the *National Construction Code* would not be considered reasonable nor necessary.

Refer to [Fire safety exemption](#) for further information on the exemption process, including how to apply and other restrictions when an exemption cannot be granted.

Reference must be made to the FRNSW website to ensure this position is current at the time of use, and this position has not been superseded or revoked.

## Summary

This position stipulates that any fire safety exemption application made for the total deletion of any required hydraulic Category 3 fire safety provision, such as a required fire hydrant system or automatic fire suppression system, will not be granted by FRNSW. Hydraulic systems are critical to facilitating fire brigade intervention, thus total deletion of the system is not reasonable.

The position does not preclude alternative means of assessment and determination, such as a performance-based design, nor an application for exemption from one or more specific requirement/s that may be considered unreasonable or unnecessary in the circumstances.

Informative commentary directs building proponents to the [Fire safety exemption](#) page on the FRNSW website, which details the fire safety exemption process and other circumstances in which an exemption will be refused.

This position statement has been authorised for release by Chief Superintendent Fire Safety, FRNSW.

## Contact us

For further information contact the Fire Safety Branch on (02) 9742 7434 or email [firesafety@fire.nsw.gov.au](mailto:firesafety@fire.nsw.gov.au).

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