

PIA

REGISTERED PLANNER PLUS (EIA)

NSW REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONERS
(REAP) SCHEME

March 2022



*Become a
Registered Planner.*



Planning
Institute
Australia

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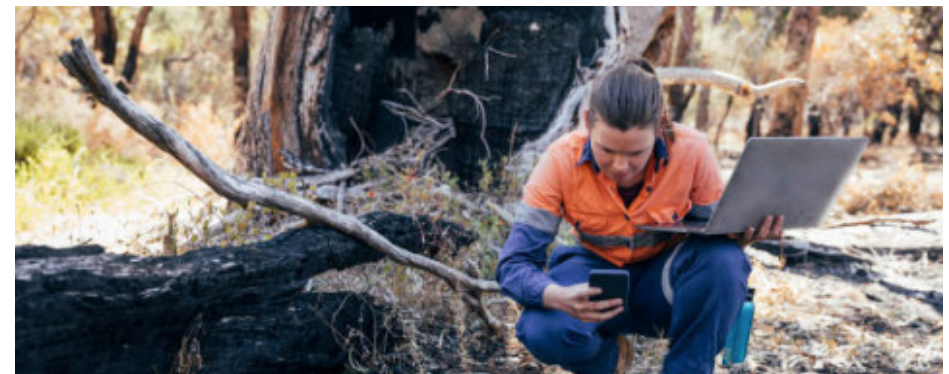
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INTRODUCTION

The NSW Government's Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioners (REAP) Scheme is designed to strengthen assessment and support well informed decision making and better outcomes for State significant projects in NSW. It's established under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 (EP&A Regulation)*.

The Scheme provides a framework for registering suitably skilled, qualified and experienced practitioners to make quality assurance declarations for Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) for State significant projects.

PIA offers an Accredited REAP Scheme recognised by the NSW Government to assess and accredit planners as Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioners (REAPs). PIA calls this Registered Planner Plus (EIA) or RP+(EIA) accreditation.



BEING AN RP+(EIA) MEANS...

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By successfully completing Plus (EIA), you will have proven your extensive capabilities in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

As long as you continue to be an RP+(EIA), you will be able to review and submit accompanying Environmental Impact Statements for State Significant Development (SSD) or State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) projects.

Being an RP+(EIA) means you can apply your knowledge of environmental assessment processes, including NSW regulatory requirements and community engagement, as well as the application of Government plans, policies and guidelines to the assessment of projects.

PIA members who attain this accreditation can apply the +(EIA) badge to their PIA Registered Planner membership.



HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE +(EIA) BADGE?

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To be eligible for +(EIA) accreditation you must:

- Be a current PIA [Registered Planner](#)
- Have 10 years or more full-time equivalent experience in NSW environmental or planning practice
- Be highly skilled in the environmental assessment of projects
- Undertake and successfully complete PIA's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) module designed to test your expertise in relation to environmental assessments.

For more information about the application process, fees and to apply, visit the [PIA website](#).

ONCE YOU'VE OBTAINED +(EIA)

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Once you have successfully completed all of the above requirements your name will be added to a public facing register on [PIA's website](#). This is the verification the NSW Government will use to authenticate your accreditation.

ONGOING REQUIREMENTS TO RETAIN YOUR +(EIA) 5

5.1 Badge duration

+(EIA) accreditation is valid for 2 years and is aligned (pro rata) with your Registered Planner membership. This means that your +(EIA) badge renews at the same time as your Registered Planner membership, provided you continue to qualify for both.

In order to extend your +(EIA) badge beyond 2 years, you may be required to undertake further education modules or satisfy additional requirements as the NSW Government reviews the REAP Scheme. PIA will notify you if this is necessary prior to your +(EIA) expiration date.

+(EIA) accreditation only applies while you are a PIA Registered Planner. You must continue to be a Registered Planner in order to keep the +(EIA) badge. If your PIA Registered Planner membership ceases or you transfer or are transferred to another grade of PIA membership for any reason, your +(EIA) accreditation is forfeited.

5.2 REAP Guidelines and Professional Conduct

+(EIA) badge holders are obliged to exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence in undertaking their work and must always comply with the regulatory scheme's guidelines. The NSW State Government REAP Guidelines are available [online](#).

All PIA Members must uphold PIA's [Code of Professional Conduct](#). Complaints received against a +(EIA) badge holder will be processed in the usual way according to PIA's By-laws. In circumstances where PIA's Board is satisfied a breach has occurred and where matters relate to the REAP Scheme, the relevant Government department will be notified in accordance with contractual arrangements and accreditation status may be lost.

5.3 Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

In addition to the standard Registered Planner CPD requirements (refer to PIA's [Continuing Professional Development Policy](#) for details), +(EIA) holders may need undertake additional EIA-specific CPD Plan activities from time to time. PIA will inform +(EIA) holders if and when such requirements arise.

As at the date of this booklet, there are no further CPD requirements for +(EIA) holders beyond those that apply for all Registered Planners.

CEASING TO HOLD +(EIA) 6

Reasons you may cease to hold the +(EIA) badge include (but are not limited to):

- Voluntarily informing PIA in writing that you no longer want to hold the badge
- Being removed as a PIA Member
- Being transferred out of the Registered Planner grade for any reason, such as non-payment of renewal fees, voluntary transfer to another class or grade of membership, downgrade from Registered Planner for reasons including failure to meet the Registered Planner CPD requirements, or as the result of disciplinary action
- Failing to meet any ongoing requirement of the +(EIA) accreditation including (but not limited to) any specific +(EIA) CPD requirements that may arise
- Failure to complete any further education modules or satisfy additional requirements resulting from a NSW Government review of the REAP Scheme.

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