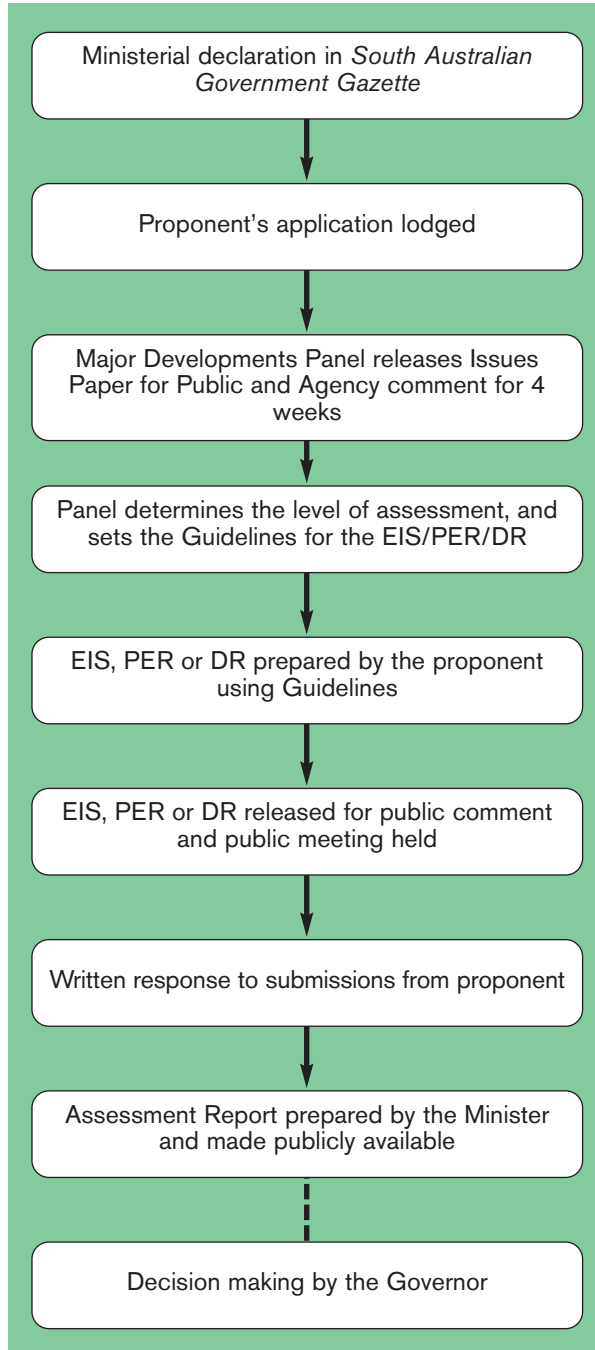


## Summary of Steps



## Further Information

### Further details can be obtained from:

- *Guide to the assessment of major developments or projects*
- *The Major Developments Panel, lodging a submission (pamphlet)*
- *Guide to making a submission (pamphlet)*

### Available from:

Planning SA phone (08) 8303 0651

The Planning SA internet site  
[www.planning.sa.gov.au](http://www.planning.sa.gov.au)

Panel website  
[www.planning.sa.gov.au/md\\_panel](http://www.planning.sa.gov.au/md_panel)

Administrator  
Major Developments  
Environmental Impact Assessment Branch  
Planning SA phone (08) 8303 0720

FIS 21639  
Amended January 2001



**Development Act 1993**

## Information about Major Developments and Projects



**Assessment process and decision making**



## What is a Major Development/Project?

The Minister for Transport and Urban Planning declares a proposal a Major Development or Project (and subject to Section 46 of the Development Act, 1993) when the Minister considers:

- it is appropriate or necessary for the proper assessment of the proposal, and
- the proposal is of major social, environmental and economic importance.

The purpose of the Major Developments or Projects assessment is to ensure that decisions on Major Developments are made with the benefit of sound analysis and advice, taking all relevant factors into account. A similar purpose applies to major projects.

*The assessment also assists proponents to realise and be responsible for the impacts of their actions and allows the community to put forward its attitude and concerns. One aim is to identify ways of minimising adverse impacts.*

The decision on whether a particular proposed development warrants the level of investigation associated with Major Development is dependent on:

- the scale of the proposed development;
- its location;
- the nature and complexity of impacts;
- the degree of knowledge about the site and proposal; and
- whether the assessment process associated with Major Development is appropriate or necessary.

### The Proponent

The proponent is the person or company that proposes to undertake the particular development. A proponent can be an individual, company, government agency or a joint venture involving cross-sectoral partnerships.

## Steps in major developments or projects-assessment processes and decision-making

- 1 The Minister declares that a development/project is of major environmental social and economic importance and it is appropriate or necessary for it to be assessed as a Major Development. The declaration is gazetted in the Government *Gazette*.
- 2 The proponent lodges a development application or project proposal (with relevant fees) to give sufficient information for the Major Developments Panel to identify issues.
- 3 The Major Developments Panel prepares an Issues Paper, which contains a written description of the proposal and the significant issues associated with it. The Issues Paper is advertised and written submissions are invited.
- 4 The Major Developments Panel determines the level of assessment (Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Public Environmental Report (PER) or Development Report (DR)) for the proposal. The Major Developments Panel also considers the submissions on the Issues Paper and prepares Guidelines for the proponent. The Guidelines are also released to the public.
- 5 The proponent prepares the EIS, PER or DR using the Guidelines.
- 6 The EIS, PER or DR is released for comment and a public meeting is held for an EIS or PER.  
An EIS or PER is released to the public for at least six weeks. A DR is released to the public for at least three weeks.
- 7 The proponent responds to submissions and matters raised by the public, Government agencies and the relevant councils.

For an EIS and a PER, the proponent must provide a response to the submissions. For a PER, this must be done within two months of receipt of the submissions.

For a DR, the proponent **may** provide a response within 10 business days of receipt of the submissions.

The response document is released to the public.

- 8 The Minister prepares an Assessment Report. This Assessment Report is released to the public.
- 9 The Development Application (usually revised) is forwarded for decision-making by the Governor, or material forwarded to the relevant Minister if it's a project.

Decisions by the Governor are gazetted in the Government *Gazette*.

**Note:** The release of documents are advertised in *The Advertiser* newspaper, and papers local to the development site.

