

Media release

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BMEE presents 2015 Bushfire Building Conference and Expo

Registrations are now open for the 2015 Bushfire Building Conference and Expo, which takes place 18-19 September at the Blue Mountains Community Theatre & Hub, Springwood. The 2015 event follows Blue Mountains Economic Enterprise's (BMEE) highly successful inaugural Bushfire Building Expo in 2014, which attracted more than 750 attendees from industry and the community.

The Bushfire Building Expo is an exhibition showcase of leading technology, products and professional services necessary to build in a bushfire zone. The Expo will also feature Community Forums to provide essential knowledge and information for all residents living in a bushfire-prone area.

"The feedback from bushfire-affected residents following BMEE's Bushfire Building Expo in 2014 was overwhelmingly positive. The community has told us that the complex regulatory environment was one of the key impediments to recovery after the October 2013 bushfires," said BMEE CEO Jacqueline Brinkman. "The increased cost related to the regulatory environment is a major contributor to residents being under-insured and it is having a critical impact on people's ability to rebuild in the region."

This year in addition to the Expo, BMEE will hold an Industry Conference that will explore the key issues around planning, designing and building in a bushfire-prone area. The conference will feature presentations, Q&A sessions and panels with industry leaders, including researchers from CSIRO, QUT and University of Wollongong, and Rob Rogers, Deputy Commissioner of the Rural Fire Service.

"The key objective of the Bushfire Building Conference and Expo is to ensure that all Blue Mountains residents are better equipped to withstand potential future bushfires, through education in relation to house and landscape building and design, regulations and insurance," said Economic Development Officer Michelle Locke, who is responsible for staging the two-day event.

Early bird conference registration and exhibitor registration are now available at www.bmee.org.au.

"Attendance at the Expo and Community Forum is free, and all Blue Mountains residents, as well as residents from other bushfire-prone areas, are encouraged to come along," said Ms Locke.

The Bushfire Building Conference and Expo Major Sponsors are GIO and NSW Rural Fire Service, and the event is proudly supported by the NSW and Australian Governments.

Further information:

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