

Media release

September 4, 2015

### National experts converge on Springwood for first ever Bushfire Building Conference

Leading Australian experts will converge on Springwood for the inaugural Bushfire Building Conference on 18 September. The conference is the only national event that brings together builders, architects, designers, planners, researchers, regulators and insurers to explore issues around building in a bushfire-prone area.

Presented by Blue Mountains Economic Enterprise (BMEE), the conference will see SBS *Insight's* Jenny Brockie bring her considerable talent to the Blue Mountains as MC for the day.

"BMEE is delighted to have secured Jenny Brockie as MC. Having someone with Ms Brockie's experience to moderate discussions and dissect complex issues means the conference can truly explore critical and controversial issues around building in a bushfire-prone area," said BMEE CEO Jacqueline Brinkman.

"This conference is the first time that industry, researchers and regulators will come together to focus purely on issues around building in a bushfire-prone area. We expect great conversations and lively debate, particularly when exploring issues such as the use of bunkers during bushfires, or the complex regulatory pathways," said Ms Brinkman.

Blue Mountains builders, landscapers, designers, architects, regulators, planners, building certifiers and suppliers and manufacturers of building products suitable for bushfire-prone areas are encouraged to attend the conference to access the most up-to-date research and thinking in their industry.

The conference will be followed by a networking evening, where delegates from all over Australia can engage with industry experts, leading academics and government agencies. The Blue Mountains is a natural choice for the location of a conference of this type, being home to a wealth of knowledge and expertise in building, planning and design in bushfire prone areas, from architects and landscape designers to builders and suppliers of bushfire-resistant products.

Conference tickets are \$190 and are available at [www.bmee.org.au](http://www.bmee.org.au)

The Bushfire Building Conference and Expo is proudly supported by the New South Wales and Australian Governments, and is made possible thanks to Major Partners NSW Rural Fire Service and GIO.

#### Media contacts:

**Jacqueline Brinkman**  
Chief Executive Officer  
0419 130 699  
jacqueline@bmee.org.au

**Donald Luscombe AFSM**  
Chairman  
02 4751 5033  
don@bmee.org.au