



Fact sheet

Managing Bush Fire Risk

TransGrid is committed to protecting the environment from the ignition of bushfires.

We manage this through implementing our Electricity Network Safety Management System, which is compliant with AS5577. This includes formally assessing risks to the public and implementing suitable controls to mitigate these. This assessment also meets our regulatory requirements contained in the:

- > *Electricity Supply (Safety and Network Management) Regulation 2014 (NSW)*
- > *Utilities (Technical Regulation) Act 2014 Technical Code*
- > *Electricity Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Regulations 2013 (Vic).*

To achieve this objective, we adhere to the following principles:

Bush Fire Safety Assessment

We have undertaken a Formal Safety Assessment specifically focused on bush fire risk, as part of our Electricity Safety Management System. This assessment has identified foreseeable threats posed by our assets and activities that could cause a bush fire, as well as the risk to our assets from bush fire. The assessment has also identified specific controls that we have applied to ensure the risk of bush fire to TransGrid and the community is as low as practicably possible.

Management of Activities

Designed Right	Built Right
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > We define the required vegetation clearance to our assets > We consider explosive consequences and where practicable do not use flammable substances > Our substations now use gravel as a base. > Our Safety in Design processes review the risks in developing assets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Our project delivery manual ensures that appropriate risk assessment is performed for construction of assets > We perform a hazardous construction assessment (HAZCON) to identify construction risks and appropriate controls > Our hot work procedure minimises or eliminates hot work during fire danger periods or total fire ban days.

Operated Right	Maintained Right
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Our operating procedures manage network operation in normal and abnormal situations > In the event of an incident, our corporate and power system emergency response plans systematically manage the issue > Ongoing stakeholder engagement maintains relationships with emergency service agencies, regulators and the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Our bush fire risk management plan provides specific detail on how we prepare and manage inspection and maintenance activities prior to and during the bush fire season > Our maintenance plans are made up of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – ground inspections – aerial inspections using visual and thermographic techniques – LiDAR imaging, which is performed across the network to develop 3D models and allow early detection of vegetation encroachments – prioritised defect rectification.

How can you assist?

You can help to manage bush fire risk by:

Reporting Issues

Try to identify the operator of the assets and call the relevant emergency number whenever you see issues such as:

- > Fallen powerlines
- > Damaged power poles or tower structures
- > Vegetation and tree encroachment of powerlines.

For TransGrid assets, refer to the contact number at the end of this fact sheet.

Do not approach fallen powerlines as these can induce dangerous voltages many metres from the conductor.

Being Powerline Aware

Whenever undertaking activities near powerlines, follow these guidelines:

- > Do not operate any equipment that has the potential to contact or get near powerlines without confirming with the operating utility
- > As far as practicable, avoid performing any works beneath or directly adjacent to powerlines
- > In the event of a bush fire, you may encounter fallen and or sagging powerlines across roads or other access routes from your residence. Please factor this into your bush fire emergency plan
- > If in doubt about the hazards and dangers, call the general enquiry number below.

Managing Vegetation on Property

Consider the location of powerlines on or adjacent to your property or business.

- > Avoid planting vegetation that may grow near, or come into contact with, powerlines. High Voltages have the ability to arc large distances or induce voltages into nearby structures
- > Take particular care when removing trees or large branches around the edges of the easement to ensure they do not fall dangerously close to the powerlines.

Contact Details

Emergencies 1800 027 253

General Enquiries 02 9284 3000

Community Enquiries 1800 222 537

Our business hours are 8:30am – 5:00pm