



Murra Warra Wind Farm
Fire Prevention & Emergency Response Plan
Final (V1.21)

Author: Kevin Garthwaite

Date: 19th May 2017

Ref: 02418-006351

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT	
<u>YARRIAMBICK</u>	PLANNING SCHEME
PERMIT NO. <u>PA1600128</u>	
ENDORSED PLAN	
SHEET <u>1</u>	OF <u>26</u>
SIGNED <u>[Signature]</u>	FOR
MINISTER FOR PLANNING	
DATE: <u>15/8/17</u>	

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<u>HORSHAM</u>	PLANNING SCHEME
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ENDORSED TO COMPLY
WITH CONDITION
<u>48</u>
OF PLANNING PERMIT
<u>PA1600127 + PA1600128</u>



Revision History

Issue	Date	Author	Nature And Location Of Change
01	28 Mar 2017	Kevin Garthwaite	Final (V1.2)
02	19 May 2017	Kevin Garthwaite	Final (V1.21)

The drawings and/or site plans included in this plan are based on layouts submitted by MWWF as part of its planning application for the Murra Warra Wind Farm project. The wind farm permits, (HRCC: PA1600127, YSC: PA1600128 and YSC PA1600129) allow actual locations of wind turbines to be subject to final micro siting up to 100 m and/or minor changes to access track locations and associated plant, equipment and construction facilities, within the boundary of existing constraints and as defined by the permits. The development can also be constructed in stages.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The Fire Prevention and Emergency Response Plan (FPERP) has been prepared for the Murra Warra Wind Farm (MWWF) as part of the overall Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in response to planning permit conditions issued by the Minister for Planning PA1600127, PA1600128 and PA1600129.

In accordance with the planning permit conditions, the FPERP is in accordance with the Emergency Management Guidelines for Wind Energy Facilities (Country Fire Authority (CFA), 2015).

The key topics of CFA (2015) and the relevant references in this plan are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Requirement of CFA (2015) guidelines

Requirement Number	Requirement	Plan Section/s
1.	Consultation	3.4
2.	Siting	6.3.1
3.	Access	6.3.10
4.	Water Supply	6.3.9
5.	Infrastructure	6.2.1
6.	High Angle Rescue	6.3.10
7.	Construction	6.2.2, 6.2.3
8.	Operation and Maintenance of Wind Energy Facilities	6.3.5
9.	Awareness and Training for Emergency Services	6.3.7
10.	Fuel/Vegetation Management	6.3.8
11.	Evacuation procedures	6.3.11
12.	Operating temperatures	4.1
13.	Training for Facilitator Staff	7

The requirements for fire prevention and emergency response that are set out in the planning permit conditions are presented in Table 2.



Table 2: Relevant planning permit conditions from Permit No. PA1600127 (Horsham Rural City Council) and PA160128 (Yarriambiack Shire Council).

Condition Number	Abbreviated condition details	Plan Section/s
48(a)	Consideration of weather based thresholds criteria for brigade call out and use of aerial appliances.	6.3.5
48(b)	Criteria for the provision of static water supply tanks, solely for firefighting purposes, including minimum capacities, appropriate connections and signage;	6.3.9
48(c)	Procedures for vegetation management, fuel control and the provision of fire fighting equipment during declared fire danger periods;	6.1, 6.2.2, 6.2.6, 6.3.8
48(d)	Minimum standards for access roads and tracks, to allow access for fire fighting vehicles, including criteria for access to static water supply tanks for fire fighting vehicles;	6.3.8 & 6.3.10
48(e)&(f)	Within one month after the commencement of the operation of the wind energy facility, the operator of the wind energy facility facilitates a familiarisation visit to the site and an explanation of the emergency services procedure session for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA, • Ambulance Victoria, • Horsham Rural City Council's Municipal Emergency Management Committee • Yarriambiack Shire Council's Municipal Emergency Management Committee • Victoria Police • State Emergency Service 	6.3.7
48(g)	Familiarisation sessions for new personnel of those organisations (referred to in 48(f)) on a regular basis and/or 'as required';	6.3.7
48(h)	If requested, training of personnel of the organisations referred to in condition 48(f) in relation to suppression of wind energy facility fires	6.2.5, 6.3.7

In meeting the requirements of this plan it is taken that the requirements of Condition 16 of PA1600129 has also been met.



1.1 Objectives

This FPERP has been developed with the objective of providing a framework of requirements for response to fire and emergency response during the construction, operation and maintenance of the MWWF, and for associated corrective actions.

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Key infrastructure components of the Murra Warra Wind Farm are described below

2.1 The turbines:

116 wind turbine generators (WTGs) of which up to 70 turbines are sited in YSC and up to 46 turbines are proposed in HRCC.

Each having an expected capacity of approximately but not limited to 3.6 MW (rated capacity will depend on final turbine selection) with an indicative combined generation capacity of up to 417 MW.

Each having a maximum tip height of 220 m above ground level and will be three bladed, with tubular steel tower, mounted by a nacelle containing the generator, gear box and electrical equipment.

Incorporating crane pads (crane hard stands) of approximately 40 x 60m, which will be located at the base of each turbine tower.

Transformer and switchgear will be housed inside the tower base, or externally, immediately adjacent to the base. Should an external transformer be required, typical dimensions are 5.5 m long by 3 m wide by 3 m high.

2.2 Supporting infrastructure

A network of turbine access tracks and entrances from public roads, will be required to support the wind turbine infrastructure.

The access tracks will generally be 6 m wide to allow access for construction and for ongoing maintenance throughout the life time of the wind farm. Where possible, site access tracks will be established to utilise existing access points and roads. It is estimated that there will be approximately 75 km of new tracks and upgraded roads required and approximately 50 access



points from minor rural roads. There may be a need for some alterations to existing road junctions close to the site (all are minor local roads).

Six potential locations have been identified for the placement of hub height anemometry masts. These will be used for monitoring the performance of the wind farm. Final selection of no more than four permanent locations will be made after final turbine selection has been made.

There will be a utility area which will be within a secure enclosed compound comprising of an operations building, car parking, warehousing/ workshop facility and an external yard area for storage which may include a bunded area for fuel storage, and other ancillary equipment.

The collector/switchyard is where overhead and underground cables from the wind farm collection system are terminated. Typically, this comprises of bus bars, switchgear, metering, a control building, reactive and harmonic filtering plant and other ancillary equipment.

Overhead and underground internal electrical reticulation system. Internally, electricity will be distributed from each wind turbine to the Terminal Station via a network of medium voltage 33 kV underground and overhead cables. It is estimated that there will be approximately 18 km of overhead line, with pole heights of approximately 30 m and 70-75 km of underground cabling.

2.3 Temporary construction compounds

Main construction compound will be located adjacent to the Terminal Station and quarry. The compound will comprise a concrete batching plant, site offices, workshops, laydown areas, a water storage dam and bunded fuel storage and other ancillary construction facilities and equipment.

Due to the extent of the site, there may be need for an additional two general construction compounds, one in the south-west adjacent to the Kings Roads and one in the north-east adjacent to the Kewell North School Road. These compounds will contain a sub-set of the elements described above for the main compound. All of the temporary infrastructure will be removed at the end of the construction programme with the compound sites rehabilitated as required by regulators and landowners.

An on-site quarry and associated crushing plant, materials stockpiling, and water storage will be sited adjacent to and immediately north of the main construction compound and Terminal Station (in YSC). The quarry will be



approximately 12 ha inclusive of temporary stock piles for overburden material and will be used to provide base materials for road building.

Figure 1: MWVF - location plan

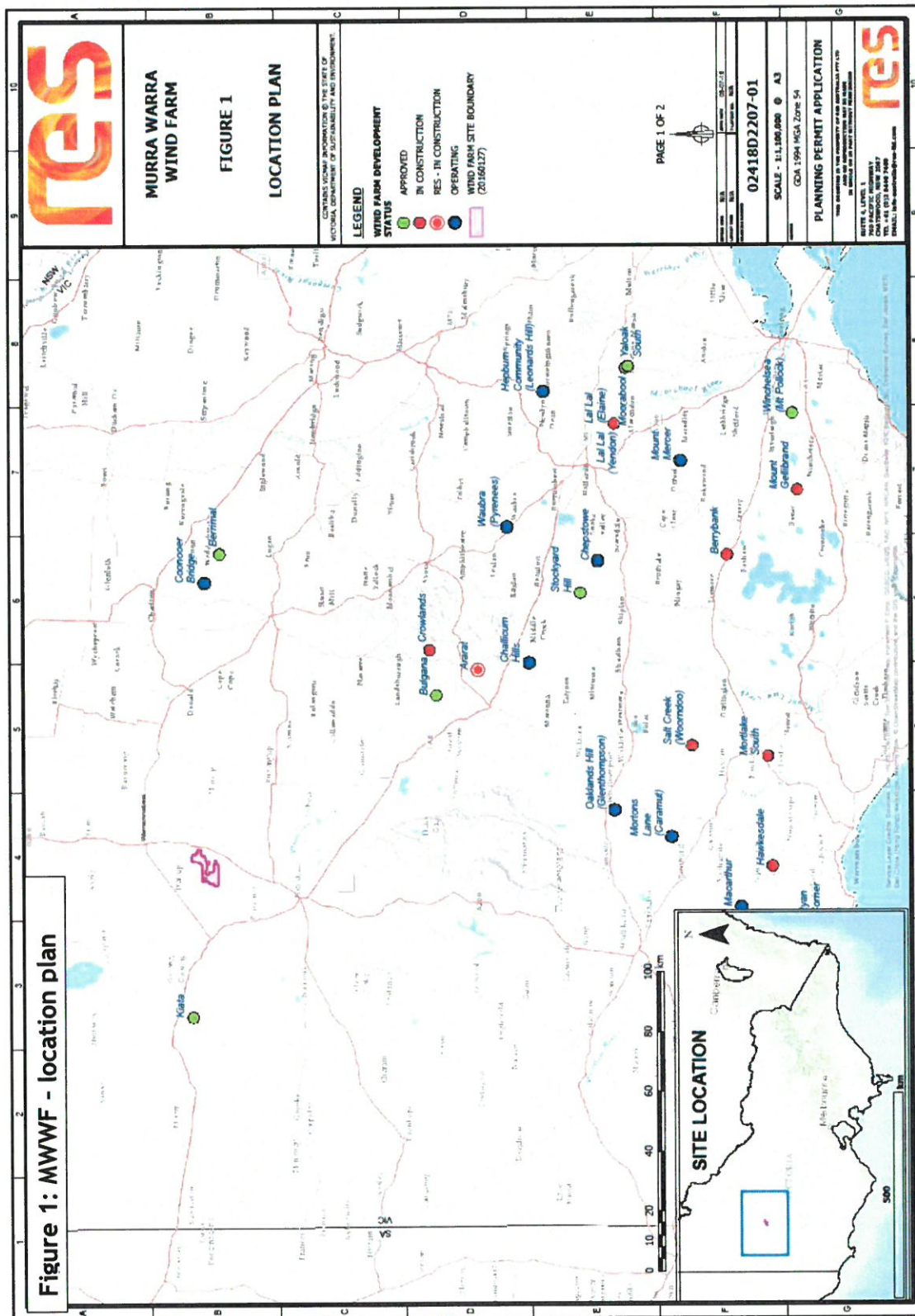
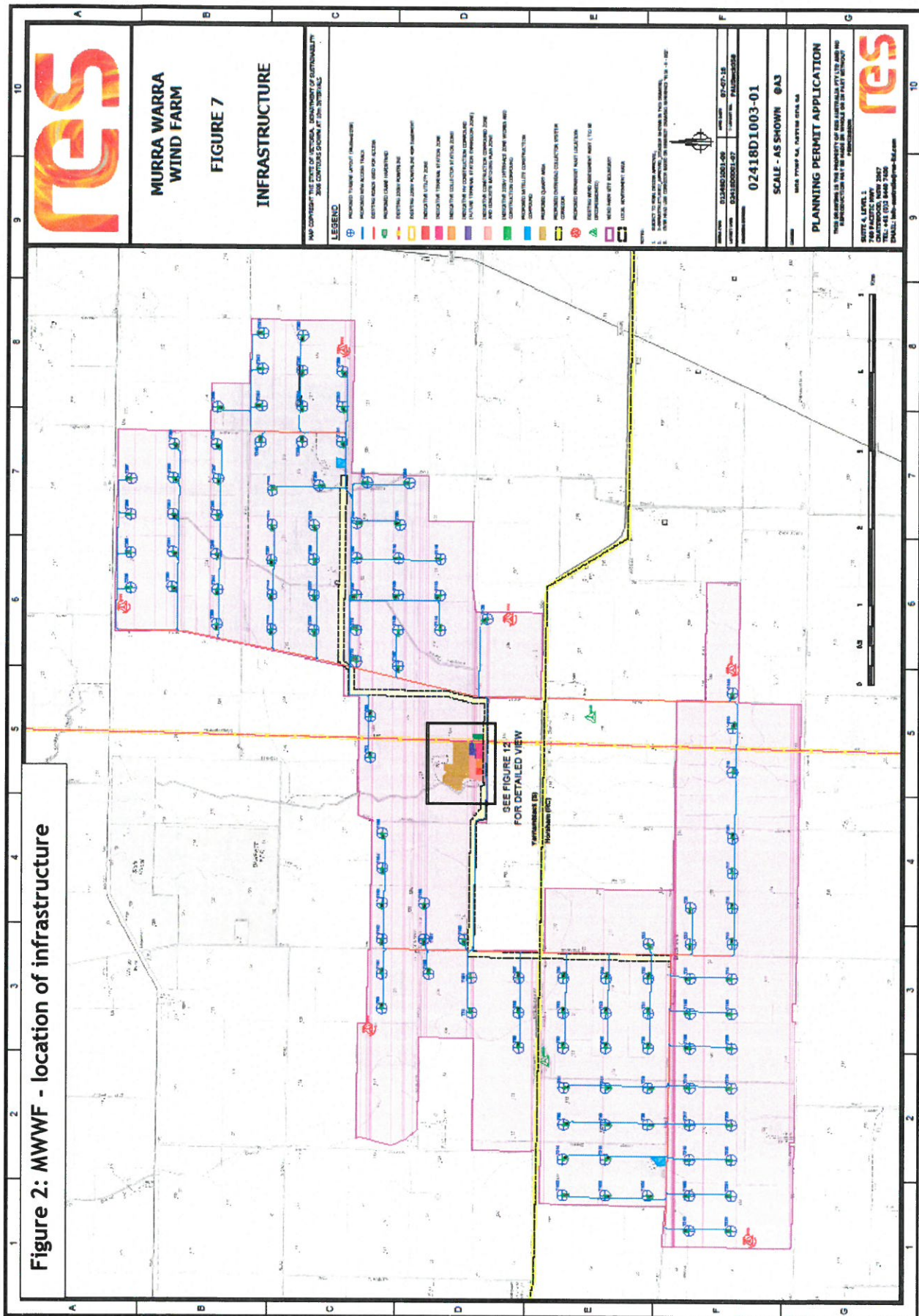


Figure 2: MWWF - location of infrastructure



[illegible]



3 POLICY AND STATUTORY CONTEXT

3.1 State legislation

Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Vic)

Planning permits requiring preparation of this FPERP granted under this Act as noted in Section 4.4 below.

3.2 Other relevant standards and guidelines

The Emergency Management Guidelines for Wind Energy Facilities (CFA, 2015) outlines the types of fire risks related to wind energy facilities including:

- nacelle fires.
- electrical faults during construction or from connection lines.
- fire fighting limitations within and adjoining the wind farm footprint such as limitations on aerial support, and access and egress conditions.
- access to water sources and air fields within or adjoining the facility.
- operation of winches and machinery during monitoring and maintenance tasks.
- impacts from downwind air turbulence on fire behaviour.

3.3 Licenses, approvals and permits

- Horsham Rural City Council Permit No: PA1600127
- Yarrimabiack Shire Permit No: PA1600127
- Yarriambiack Shire Permit No: PA 1600129

3.4 Liaison with key stakeholders

Key stakeholders in the FPERP include:

- CFA
- staff and contractors
- local community.



The CFA has been consulted during the preparation of this plan and have provided input and advice on the:

- placement and volumes of static water supplies for firefighting
- roads and access.

During construction and operation; staff and contractors will be required to undertake an induction, which addresses fire threats and how incidents should be managed when coming on site. Neighbours will be contacted informing them of:

- methods for alerting them to emergency situations.
- emergency procedures.

4 METHODOLOGY

This FPERP relates to the construction, operation and maintenance of MWWF only. The method adopted for the development of this plan has been to:

- identify potential fire incidents
- identify fire prevention measures
- identify post incident emergency management planning.

4.1 Potential Fire Incidents

Potential fire incidents identified covered two geographical areas at the wind farm; the turbines themselves, and the associated infrastructure. Potential incidents were considered through construction, operation and maintenance activities. Decommissioning was not considered at this stage; a fire management plan will be prepared for decommissioning activities in the future.

In general turbines will be shut down when wind speed exceeds 27m/s and the temperature exceeds 40 Degrees Celsius

Identified potential incidents include:

Turbines

- Fire arising from construction activities - e.g. hot work
- Fire arising from turbine operations - e.g. lightning strike, mechanical or electrical failure of nacelle or transformer components
- Fire arising from maintenance activities - e.g. hot work.

Associated infrastructure

- Fire arising from construction activities - e.g. hot work
- Fire arising from maintenance activities - e.g. hot work
- Fire arising from other personnel activities - e.g. smoking.

These incidents are discussed further in Section 5.



4.2 Fire Prevention

Fire prevention will include the following measures:

- site selection and design
- fire protection systems
- maintenance and inspections
- procedural controls
- fuel load management.

4.3 Emergency Response

Emergency response will be made up of the following elements:

- static water supply
- informing appropriate persons
- emergency services access.

5 KEY ISSUES

5.1 Construction Phase

Key issues include:

- construction fire risks such as sparking from electric winches used in erection of wind monitoring towers
- the nacelle on top of the wind towers contain the electrical generators and include lubricating and hydraulic oils. These pose some risk of fire within the nacelle following introduction of these fuel loads during construction. The transformer at the base of each wind tower contains oil which if exposed to a fire would add a fuel source.
- emergency services may have delayed or inappropriate access to the site during an emergency if unfamiliar with the wind farm site
- additional fire risks identified include ignition due to cigarette butts, sparks from welding or grinding equipment and electrical equipment failure.



5.2 Operations and Maintenance Phase

5.2.1 Windfarm facility

Key issues include:

- maintenance fire risks such as sparking from electric winches used in erection or dismantling of wind monitoring towers
- the nacelle on top of the wind towers contain the electrical generators and include lubricating and hydraulic oils. These pose some risk of fire within the nacelle due to mechanical or electrical (including lightning) causes. The transformer at the base of each wind tower contains oil which if exposed to a fire would add a fuel source.
- emergency services may have delayed or inappropriate access to the site during an emergency if unfamiliar with the wind farm site.

5.2.2 Associated Infrastructure

The Operations and Maintenance Building will include a workshop, offices, store and kitchen. The principal fire risks identified include ignition due to cigarette butts, sparks from welding or grinding equipment and electrical equipment failure.

6 MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION

A series of management measures have been identified in order to minimise the impacts on the known environmental values. These are highlighted below by geographic area and project phase. Any requirements for use of specialised equipment have also been highlighted.

6.1 General

Adherence to CFA (2015), will ensure that:

- appropriate permits have been issued for work during Fire Danger Periods
- restrictions are followed on Total Fire Ban days and high fire danger days, referring to www.cfa.vic.gov.au
- machinery including winches (excluding winch motors contained within the turbines or other winches when used on vegetation free areas) are not operated on days of high fire danger
- fire extinguishers or fire fighting equipment are carried in vehicles
- construction vehicles will be directed to keep on designated construction roads at all times
- vehicles with catalytic converters are prevented from entering the site on high fire danger days



- smoking is restricted to prescribed areas.

6.2 Construction

6.2.1 Site Selection and Design

Fire risk will be minimised through site selection, equipment design and maintenance measures. The turbines will be located on land that is predominantly used for grazing and cropping. Grass in the vicinity of the turbine towers will be kept short through continued grazing and regular weed spraying. A two metre surround for all turbine towers will be covered with crushed rock to reduce the growth of vegetation and provide safe access. Each wind turbine will remain easily accessible by the access roads.

The selected wind turbine model will be certified by an internationally recognised authority, and have a proven track record of safe operation. Each turbine nacelle will be designed in accordance with Australian Standards.

6.2.2 Fire Fighting Equipment

During the construction phase, firefighting equipment in the form of portable extinguishers shall be provided in the following locations:

- at the temporary construction compound
- in all construction vehicles.

On high or above fire risk days, vehicles will carry fire suppression equipment comprising either:

- at least one knapsack spray pump filled with water, with a capacity of not less than 9 L
- at least one water fire extinguisher, fully charged with water and maintained at correct pressure with a capacity of not less than 9 L.

6.2.3 Procedural Controls

During Fire Danger period CFA (2015) will be adhered to during Total Fire Ban days. Specifically:

- no welding, grinding, charring, soldering or gas cutting will be performed on site
- if possible the use of tractors, slashers, earth moving, excavating or road-making machines within 9 m of grass, stubble, weeds, undergrowth or



vegetation will be delayed to a non-fire ban or low fire risk day. If the equipment is to be used steps must be taken to ensure it is:

- free of faults and mechanical defects that could provide an ignition source
- fitted with a spark arrester in working order
- carry fire suppression equipment comprising either
- at least one knapsack spray pump filled with water, with a capacity of not less than 9 L
- at least one water fire extinguisher, fully charged with water and maintained at correct pressure with a capacity of not less than 9L
- vehicles associated with the facility will carry a fire extinguisher and rake as a minimum when on site during the fire danger period.

6.2.4 Ignition Source Control

Fire risk due to smoking activity will be mitigated through induction procedures including designating approved smoking areas, provision of fire extinguishers in the operations and maintenance building and instruction on emergency response procedures.

In the field, fire risk will be mitigated through appropriate fire risk awareness induction of operations and maintenance personnel and other visitors to the site, ensuring the maintenance is carried out away from combustible fuel sources and elimination of fuel sources and provision of fire extinguishers in site vehicles.

6.2.5 Site Familiarisation of Emergency Services

Familiarisation visits for new personnel within Emergency Services organisations will be provided as required. Refresher site visits for personnel will also be available at these times, and on a yearly basis.

The training of CFA personnel in relation to the suppression of wind energy facility fires will also be provided if requested.

6.2.6 Fuel Load Management

Regular maintenance of grass and / or weed growth will be carried out within five metres of the operations and maintenance building and gutters will be regularly inspected and cleared of debris.

In accordance with the CFA (2015), grass shall be kept no more than 100 mm in height and leaf litter no more than ten mm deep for a distance of 30 metres around buildings.



CFA (2015) also requires that a “bare earth break at the property boundary and at 100 m radius from each turbine” be considered. The land around the proposed turbines is currently used for broad acre cropping of cereals and pulses, it is therefore considered impractical for the Wind Farm site to maintain these bare earth breaks.

Land within the immediate vicinity of the turbines (at least 2 m) will be covered with crushed rock, the turbine hardstands and the access tracks are to be constructed of stone and will be weed controlled and kept devoid of vegetation.

6.3 Operation and Maintenance

6.3.1 Site Selection and Design

Fire risk will be minimised through site selection, equipment design and maintenance measures.

The turbines will be located on land that is predominantly used for grazing and cropping. Grass in the vicinity of the turbines towers will be kept short through continued grazing and regular weed spraying. A two metre surround for all turbine towers will be covered with crushed rock to reduce the growth of vegetation and provide safe access. Each wind turbine will remain easily accessible by access roads.

The selected wind turbine model will be certified by an internationally recognised authority, and have a proven track record of safe operation. Each turbine nacelle will be designed in accordance with Australian Standards.

Wind turbines will be located at distances of greater than 300 m apart to provide adequate distances for aerial firefighting equipment to access the site, in accordance with Section 2.3 of CFA (2015).

Fire Detection and Warning Systems

The wind turbines will incorporate a sophisticated supervisory control system that continually interrogates the operational status and safe working of key components of each turbine and allows an operator to remotely monitor the turbines via a modem. This will alert to the detection of smoke or heat.

6.3.2 Fire Orders

Before the commencement of operations a set of fire orders will be produced which will give a simple set of instructions to wind farm operatives on procedures to be followed in the event of fire and other emergency situations. A copy will be given to the wind farm operatives, the CFA and displayed in prominent locations around the site.



6.3.3 Fire Fighting Equipment

During the operation phase, fire fighting equipment in the form of portable extinguishers will be provided in the following locations:

- the Operation and Maintenance building
- all operation / maintenance vehicles
- the substation switch room
- wind turbine ground platforms
- wind turbine nacelles.

6.3.4 Maintenance and inspections

Each turbine will be inspected every year before the first of November to ensure the crushed rock/gravel area is clear of vegetation and other flammable items (e.g. packaging, rubbish and oil containers). Periodic inspection will also include visual inspection of the broader site for presence of dry fuel.

In the unlikely event that a fire is initiated within the turbine tower, the fire should be contained within the tower itself. The routine preventative strategies previously mentioned for the turbine tower and substations/switchyards will be recorded as individual works in the maintenance plan and tracked through the use of a computerised maintenance management system.

6.3.5 During fire danger period

The advice of the CFA (2015) will be adhered to during Total Fire Ban days. Specifically:

- no Welding, grinding, charring, soldering or gas cutting will be performed on site
- if possible the use of tractors, slashers, earth moving, excavating or road- making machines within 9 m of grass, stubble, weeds, undergrowth or vegetation will be delayed to a non-fire ban or low fire risk day. If the equipment is to be used steps must be taken to ensure it is :
 - free of faults and mechanical defects that could provide an ignition source
 - fitted with a spark arrester in working order
 - Carry fire suppression equipment comprising either
 - at least one knapsack spray pump filled with water, with a capacity of not less than 9 L
 - at least one water fire extinguisher, fully charged with water and maintained at correct pressure with a capacity of not less than 9 L



- vehicles will carry a fire extinguisher and rake as a minimum when on site during the fire danger period
- call out to the brigade would only be necessary in response to an incident. The CFA will decide the appropriate response for the weather conditions and use and deployment of aerial appliances.

6.3.6 Ignition Source Control

Fire risk due to smoking activity will be mitigated through induction procedures including designating approved smoking areas, provision of fire extinguishers in the operations and maintenance building and instruction on emergency response procedures.

In the field, fire risk will be mitigated through appropriate fire risk awareness induction of operations and maintenance personnel and other visitors to the site, ensuring the maintenance is carried out away from combustible fuel sources and elimination of fuel sources and provision of fire extinguishers in site vehicles.

Permits to work processes will be an integral part of the Wind Farm Operational Health & Safety Plan and this will include a Hot Work Permit System.

6.3.7 Site Familiarisation of Emergency Services

Within one month of commencement of operation, a familiarisation visit to the site and explanation of emergency services procedures will be conducted for the relevant members of the CFA, Ambulance Victoria, Victoria Police and HRCC and YSC's Emergency Management Committees.

MWWF will also provide familiarisation visits for new personnel within these organisations as required. Refresher site visits for other personnel will also be available at these times, and on a yearly basis.

The training of CFA personnel in relation to the suppression of wind energy facility fires will also be provided if requested.



6.3.8 Fuel Load Management

Regular maintenance of grass and / or weed growth will be carried out within five metres of the operations and maintenance building and gutter regularly inspected and cleared of debris.

In accordance with the CFA Guidelines for Wind Energy Facilities, grass shall be kept no more than 100 mm in height and leaf litter no more than ten mm deep for a distance of 30 metres around buildings.

CFA (2015) also requires that a “bare earth break at the property boundary and at 100 m radius from each turbine” be considered. The land around the proposed turbines is currently used for broad acre cropping of cereals and pulses it is therefore considered impractical for Wind Farm site to maintain a bare earth break at 100 m from each turbine.

Land within the immediate vicinity of the turbines (at least 2 m), the turbine hardstands and the access tracks are to be constructed of stone and will be weed controlled and kept devoid of vegetation.

The fire risks on the site will be mitigated through vegetation management and appropriate equipment design.

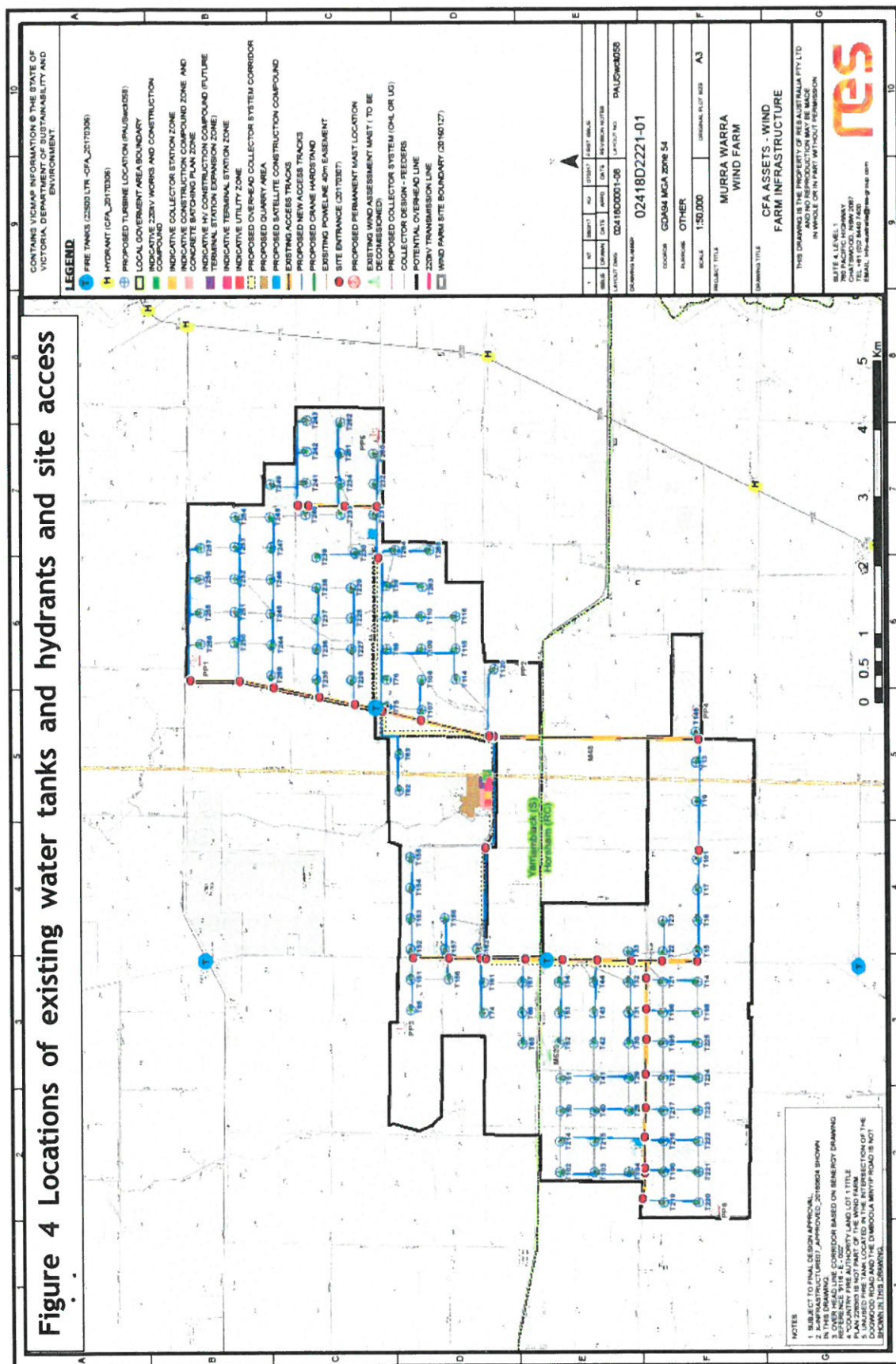
6.3.9 Site Access and access to firefighting water supplies

Water supply tanks and hydrants, solely for firefighting purposes are already located on and close to the site and these are shown on figure 4.

Access gates to turbines and other infrastructure will be provided at the points shown on Figure 4.

Figure 5 shows the water supply identification requirements, which will be adhered to at the Wind Farm site.

Figure 4 Locations of existing water tanks and hydrants and site access



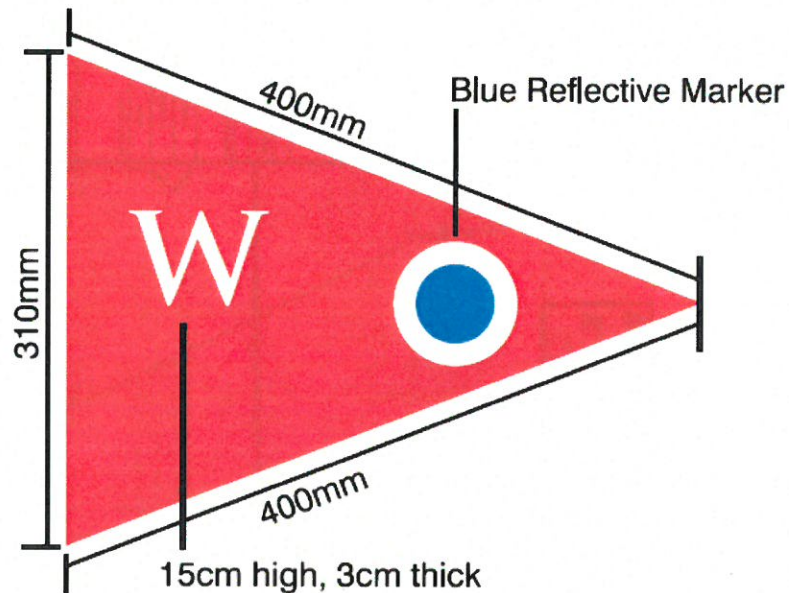


Figure 5 Water supply identification

6.3.10 Emergency Service Access

Adequate access to and within Wind Farm site will be designed to assist CFA in responding to and managing fires on site, as laid out in the CFA (2015). The design will enable access for fire appliance with the following considered:

- constructed roads should be a minimum of 3.5 m in trafficable width (with 0.5 m each side) with a 4 m vertical clearance for the width of the formed road surface
- roads should be constructed to a standard so that they are accessible in all weather conditions and capable of accommodating a vehicle of 15 tonnes for the trafficable road width
- the average grade should be no more than 1 in 7 (14.4%) (8.1°) with a maximum of no more than 1 in 5 (20%) (11.3°)
- dips in the road should have no more than a 1 in 8 (12.5%) (7.1°) entry and exit angle
- passing bays should be located every 200 m on access tracks where the trafficable width is less than 5.0 m.



- Emergency contact details for the wind farm will be given to the CFA Operations Manager at District 17 Headquarters in Horsham and will be displayed prominently at the main site entrance and at key access points.

6.3.11 High Angle Rescue

The wind farm will have a plan for high angle rescue and rescue in confined spaces agreed with the lead authority (Police, CFA or SES) before the commencement of operations.

6.4 Inform appropriate persons - internal and external

For both Construction and Operation and Maintenance phases, in an emergency situation appropriate persons should be contacted as soon as practicable following detection of a fire, as detailed in the EMP Reporting Program.

Emergency contact details are provided in Table 3.

Table 3 Emergency Contact Details

Contact	Phone number
Murra Warra Wind Farm Supervisor	02 8440 7400
Police	000
Country Fire Authority	000
Ambulance	000
Horsham Rural City Council	03 5382 9777
Yarriambiack Shire Council	03 5398 0100
EPA Victoria	1300 372 842

7 TRAINING

Staff working on the construction, operation and maintenance of the MWWF will be provided an induction which includes:

- an overview of the FPERP
- emergency contact details.

An annual emergency exercise will be conducted to test and raise awareness of the FPERP.



8 MONITORING AND AUDIT

A number of processes and procedures will be established to monitor and audit including:

- implementation of the plan will be tracked by a computerised maintenance management system which records the requirement for inspections and vegetation clearing listed in the FPERP.
- auditing of the FPERP will be performed at a maximum of 2 yearly intervals
- identification of deficiencies / improvements as part of continuous improvement procedures and incorporation of updates in annual revisions to the FPERP
- monitoring and auditing the effectiveness of inspections carried out under the FPERP will be performed under maintenance quality assurance procedures. Asset performance and condition audits will be performed every 3 years by MWWF.
- training necessary for persons assigned to perform functions under the FPERP will be provided for within subcontracting agreements
- monitoring and auditing the competence of the persons assigned to carry out inspections under the FPERP.

Any changes to the layouts which are considered in consultation with the relevant authorities to be material changes, may require a revision of the FPERP for the further approval of the relevant authorities.

9 GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS

CFA	Country Fire Authority
HRCC	Horsham Rural City Council
YSC	Yarriambiack Shire Farm
FPERP	Fire Prevention Emergency Response Plan
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
MWWF	Murra Warra Wind Farm

10 REFERENCES

Country Fire Authority (2015) Emergency Management Guidelines for Wind Energy Facilities.