Vestas Australian Wind Technology Pty Ltd

# Bushfire Mitigation Plan (BMP)
## 2026

Revision 0

## Golden Plains Wind Farm – West

Document No. **GPWF-W-VES-PMG-PLN-00013**

## Version History

| Version | Details | Prepared by | Approved by | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | Draft – Issued for Review | P.Galbo | | |
| B | ESV comments addressed | P.Galbo | J. Pallanza | 12.12.2025 |
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## Table of Contents


Table of Contents ..... 3
1 Introduction ..... 4
1.1 Plan Availability ..... 4
2 Definitions ..... 5
3 Prescribed Particulars of the BMP ..... 6
3.1 Contact Details ..... 6
*Specified operator* ..... 6
*Person/s Responsible for creating the plan* ..... 6
*Person/s Responsible for carrying out the plan* ..... 6
*Emergency contacts* ..... 6
3.2 Policy and Objectives ..... 6
*Bushfire mitigation Policy* ..... 6
*Objectives of the Bushfire Mitigation Policy* ..... 7
3.3 Asset Description ..... 7
3.4 Preventative Strategy 6(h) ..... 10
3.5 Line Inspections 6(i) ..... 10
3.6 Competency 6(j)(k) ..... 12
3.7 Operation and Maintenance Plans 6(l) ..... 12
*Fire Event Plan* ..... 12
*Total Fire Ban Day Plan* ..... 14
*Fire Danger Period Plan* ..... 14
3.8 Performance Monitoring and Auditing 6(m) ..... 15
*Monitor the Implementation of the Plan* ..... 15
*Audit the Implementation of the Plan* ..... 16
*Identify Deficiencies in the Implementation or Effectiveness of the Plan* ..... 16
*Change the Plan and the Plan's Implementation to Rectify Deficiencies Identified* ..... 16
*Monitor the Effectiveness of Inspections carried out under the Plan* ..... 16
*Audit the Effectiveness of Inspections carried out under the Plan* ..... 17
3.9 Assistance to Fire Authorities 6(o) ..... 17
3.10 Energy Safe Victoria Exemptions ..... 17

# 1 Introduction

This Bushfire Mitigation Plan outlines how Vestas Australian Wind Technology Pty Ltd (Vestas) manages the overhead transmission lines described in Section 3.3 at the Golden Plains Wind Farm to mitigate bushfire risk and ensure our assets are safe and reliable. The transmission lines in which the plan relates are within a High Bushfire Risk Area (HBRA). The transmission lines relating to this plan are newly built in 2025 with an expected energisation date of 19 January 2026.

Vestas has prepared this plan in accordance with Section 6 (Prescribed particulars for bushfire mitigation plans—specified operators) of the Electrical Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Regulations 2023, for approval by Energy Safe Victoria.

Vestas Australian Wind Technology Pty Ltd is currently the principal contractor and the specified operator of the overhead transmission lines with the owner of the asset and licence holder being Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd (ACN 650 490 109) as trustee for Golden Plains WF2 Unit Trust (ABN 19 955 437 506) under Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd ATF Golden Plains WF2 Unit Trust – Electricity Generation Licence.

This plan is subject to annual review (by Vestas) and submission to Energy Safe Victoria if any changes are made or else 5 yearly, to ensure it describes current management regimes and processes, and to allow for continuous improvement.

The WHSMP (GPWF-W-VES-PMG-PLN-00005) and ERP (GPWF-W-VES-PMG-PLN-00007) are reference documents only and do not form part of this BMP. All pertinent information contained has been included in this BMP.

## 1.1 Plan Availability

This plan is available for public inspection, in accordance with section 83BA (a) and (b), following acceptance of the plan by Energy Safe Victoria. It is available on Golden Plains Wind Farm website (https://goldenplainswindfarm.com.au/) and for viewing on request at Vestas' Golden Plains Wind Farm West site office located at 182 Gilletts Rd, Rokewood VIC 3330.

Vestas Golden Plains Wind Farm Office Hours:
Monday to Saturday - 7:00am to 5:00pm
Sunday - Closed

# 2 Definitions

| Term/Abbreviation | Definition |
|---|---|
| BMP | Bushfire Mitigation Plan |
| ELCMP | Electric Line Clearance Management Plan |
| ERP | Emergency Response Plan |
| ESV | Energy Safe Victoria (Regulator) |
| GP2M | Golden Plains Wind Farm Stage 2 Metering yard |
| GPCC | Golden Plains Central Collector Substation |
| GPWC | Golden Plains Western Collector Substation |
| GPWF-E | Golden Plains Wind Farm East – See appendix A |
| GPWF-W | Golden Plains Wind Farm West – See appendix A |
| HBRA | Hazardous Bushfire Risk Area – An area that a fire control authority has |
| WHSMP | Work Health and Safety Management Plan |
| WTG | Wind Turbine Generator |

# 3 Prescribed Particulars of the BMP

## 3.1 Contact Details

### Specified operator

| | |
|---|---|
| Name | Vestas Australian Wind Technology Pty Ltd (ACN 089 653 878) |
| Address | 312 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne VIC 3004 |
| Phone | 0448 969 602 |
| Email | jpalz@vestas.com |

### Person/s Responsible for creating the plan

| | |
|---|---|
| Name | Philipp Galbo |
| Position | Assistant Project Manager |
| Address | 312 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne VIC 3004 |
| Phone | 0447 090 908 |
| Email | pilga@vestas.com |

### Person/s Responsible for carrying out the plan

| | |
|---|---|
| Name | Jared Pallanza |
| Position | Electrical Site Supervisor |
| Address | 312 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne VIC 3004 |
| Phone | 0448 969 602 |
| Email | jpalz@vestas.com |

### 24/7 Emergency contacts

There is no control room of the Golden Plains Wind Farm, the below people can be contacted in an emergency.

| | |
|---|---|
| Name | Jared Pallanza |
| Position | Electrical Site Supervisor |
| Address | 312 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne VIC 3004 |
| Phone | 0448 969 602 |
| Email | jpalz@vestas.com |

**OR**

| | |
|---|---|
| Name | Gary Barret |
| Position | Construction Site Manager |
| Address | 312 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne VIC 3004 |
| Phone | 0428 597 338 |
| Email | gabar@vestas.com |

## 3.2 Policy and Objectives

### Bushfire mitigation Policy

Vestas Australian Wind Technology Pty Ltd is the principal contractor and specified operator of Golden Plains Wind Farm West overhead transmission lines and values the health and safety of all personnel influenced by its operation.

We appreciate that the ignition of fire is a significant threat to personnel, property and the environment.

We are committed to the effective implementation of the Bushfire Mitigation Plan and will design, construct, operate, maintain and decommission the at-risk electric lines to minimise as far as practicable the bushfire danger arising from each line.

### Objectives of the Bushfire Mitigation Policy

The key objective of this Bushfire Mitigation Plan is to:

- eliminate where practicable all fire ignition risks associated with the overhead transmission lines within the Golden Plains Wind Farm
- achieve vegetation line clearances to
- the Code of Practice for Electric Line Clearance prescribed in regulation 7 of the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations
- appropriately monitoring the condition, maintaining and replacing assets to minimise the risk of bushfire ignition arising from asset failure as far as practicable

## 3.3 Asset Description

The overhead transmission lines within the Golden Plains Wind Farm associated with this BMP are

- 220kV overhead line between the GP2M yard and GPCC
- 220kV overhead line between the GP2M yard and GPWC

The Overhead lines consist of:

- A double circuit segment from GP2M yard to structures CN40C and CN40W at the GPCC Substation of 12.63km in length
- A single circuit segment from CN41 to CN59 at the GPWC Substation of 18.15km in length
- 64 x various height suspension and strain monopoles in total (See photos in figures 2, 3, 4)
- Conductor type: 61/3.25 AAAC (All Aluminium alloy conductors) Sulfur - DIA 33.8mm
- OPGW (Optical Ground Wire) Type: ZTT 72 G652-AST-184 - f 18mm
- Insulator Type: Class/Porcelain
- The following ground clearances have been implemented:
    - Minimum Ground Level clearance at Max Operating Temperature above ground, including buffer is 8.3 m (7.5 m + 0.8 m buffer)
    - Minimum Ground Level clearance at Max Operating Temperature over Substation access roads - 15m
    - Minimum Ground Level clearance at Max Operating Temperature over windfarm assess tracks and public roads is 12 m
    - Minimum in Ground Level clearance at Max Operating Temperature over pole dirt access tracks is 8.3 m. Works relating to these OHL pole access tracks will be conducted under permit, which will verify vehicle heights are no greater than 1.9m at these minimum points.

These are newly constructed lines in 2025 located over flat grazing and farming land. There are native vegetation, trees, creek and road crossings over the length of the line. An easement of 40m width has been cleared over the length of the transmission line.

Access to the assets must be through Vestas at Vestas' Golden Plains Wind Farm West site office located at 182 Gilletts Rd, Rokewood VIC 3330.

As shown in the below diagrams and photos, also see Appendix A for a large map of the Wind Farm with OHL.

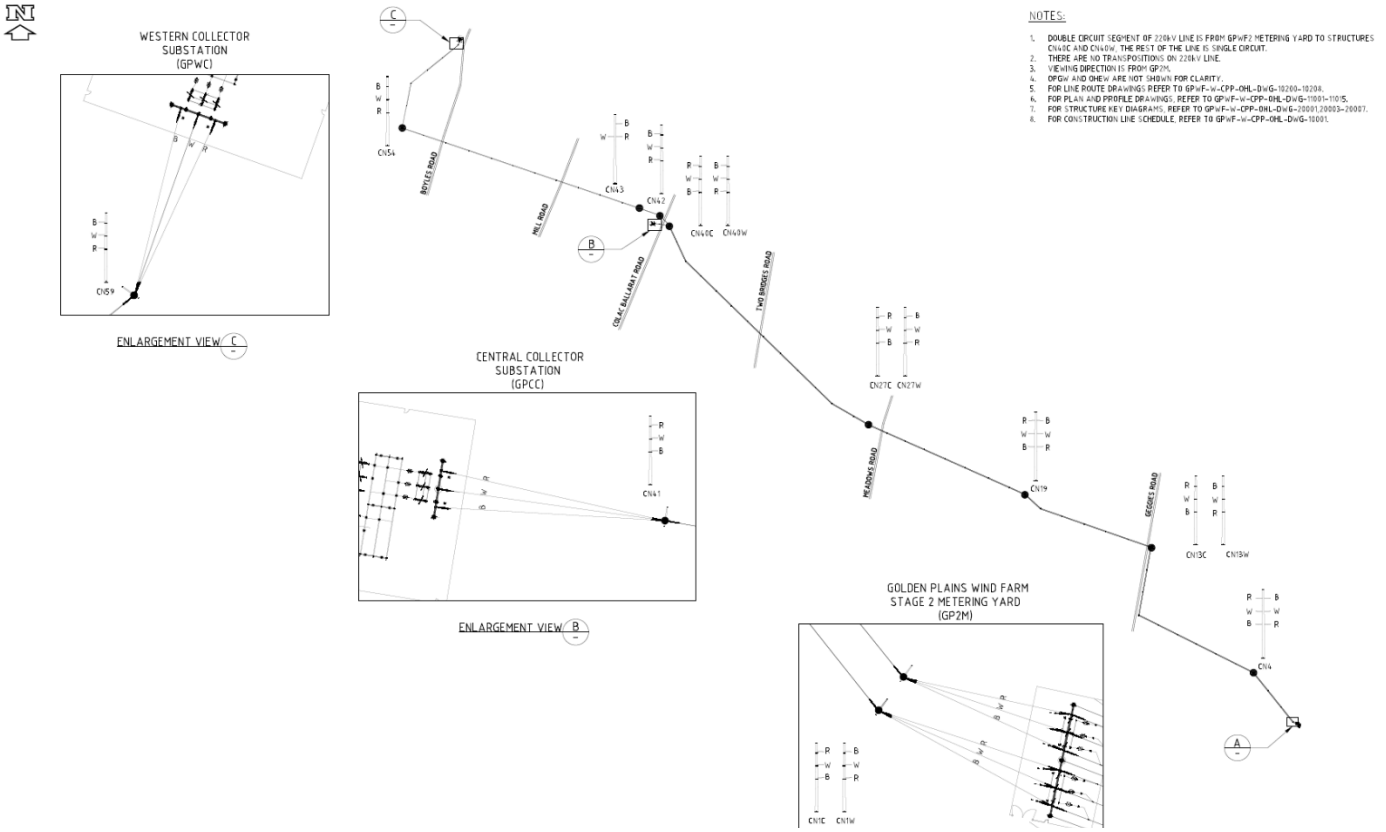


*Figure 1 Transmission Lines Layout Plan*

*Figure 2 Transmission Lines connection at GP2M yard*

*Figure 3 Transmission Line connection at GPCC*

*Figure 4 Transmission Line connection at GPWC*

This Bushfire Mitigation Plan applies to the overhead lines, poles, hardware and apparatus up from the line posts within the GP2M yard, GPCC and GPWC substations. These items remain within the Golden Plains Wind Farm boundary. Golden Plains WF2 Pty Ltd is the owner of the assets at either end of the transmission lines being the GP2M yard, GPCC and GPWC Substations.

## 3.4 Preventative Strategy

This Bushfire Mitigation Plan provides strategies and programmes for the prevention of bushfires caused by the operation of the overhead transmission line. The risk of bushfire will be managed through the following:

- Undertaking inspections and preventative maintenance of electrical assets
- Ensuring the competency of personnel engaged in high-risk work
- Utilisation of quality products throughout the construction and operation of the wind farm
- Maintain easements to ensure appropriate vegetation management

During construction of the wind farm fire-fighting equipment suitable to extinguish small fires is provided at locations around the farm. See section 3.7.

The Electrical Line Clearance Management Plan (ELCMP) will be prepared by 23 March 2026 for submission to ESV. At time of this BMP (October 2025) all vegetation trimming and removal has been completed and meeting regulatory requirements. A 40m wide easement over the length of the transmission line was cleared.

## 3.5 Line Inspections

Overhead power lines are inspected periodically as per the below frequencies. These inspections will be carried out Vestas.

An annual patrol of the Transmission line will be completed prior to the bushfire season each year.

Line inspections are to be completed pole by pole with inspection to include the following components and frequencies:

| Asset inspection | Interval | Inspection details |
|---|---|---|
| Line Fittings | Annual visual inspection | Insulator discs free of cracks<br>Pins free of corrosion/flaking<br>No flashover or tracking marks<br>Clamps and splices intact<br>Attachment points intact, no visible damage<br>Thermal imaging to detect hotspots |
| Structures | Annual visual inspection | Signage still in good condition<br>Anchor bolts tight, none missing or corroded<br>Steel pole sections in good condition, no corrosion/deformation<br>Structures footings/foundations free of |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | cracks and in good condition |
| Conductors | Annual visual inspection | Phase conductors free of any visible damage<br>OPGW free of any visible damage<br>Midspan conductor joints intact<br>Earth connections visually intact<br>Thermal imaging to detect hotspots |
| Structure climbing inspection | Every 5 years | To cover all of the above. |
| Easement/Vegetation | Annual inspection | Access tracks clear and accessible<br>Vegetation clearance maintained for lines and structures |

Annual inspections are scheduled for between February and April for both 2026 and 2027. Drones will be used as part of the above inspections.

The inspector is required to identify defects, report on the condition, and assign a priority regarding rectification. Vestas will review reports, identified defects and assign their own priority rating as below:

| **Priority number** | **Rectification Timeframe** | **Defect** |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | ASAP (to be completed within a week) | Broken Conductor or insulator<br>Arcing<br>Vegetation at risk of breaching the minimum clearance space prescribed in the code of practice for electric line clearance within one month<br>Damage that could lead to failure of a pole within one month |
| 2 | High (to be completed within a month) | Cracked insulator that does not cause flashover<br>Loose or missing hardware such as insulators, attachments, bolts or wire ties<br>Vegetation at risk of breaching the minimum clearance space prescribed in the code of practice for electric line clearance before the next inspection<br>Damage that could lead to failure of a pole before the next inspection |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3 | No immediate action required/ Monitor | Pole signage showing signs of wear<br><br>Signs of rust on anchor bolt or pole |

## 3.6 Competencies

Vestas understands that the competence of personnel is a key element in ensuring the quality of our inspections.

For transmission asset inspections from the ground or via drone, one of the following training courses is required:

- UET20621 Certificate II in ESI - Asset Inspection and Testing (or equivalent) **OR**
- UET30521 Certificate III in ESI - Transmission Overhead (or equivalent)

For transmission asset inspection that require climbing as part of the inspection, the following training course is required:

- UET30521 Certificate III in ESI - Transmission Overhead (or equivalent)

Or equivalent equally recognised training course as directed by Energy Safe Victoria. All personnel must be approved and inducted by Vestas for Golden Plains Wind Farm prior to undertaking any electrical asset inspections.

Other personnel who will perform tasks or rectification works relating to this BMP are:

- Vegetation Clearance external contractors - UET20321 Certificate II in ESI - Powerline Vegetation Control (or equivalent)
- Line Workers, fitters, jointers
- Specialist Plant operators

Training required by personnel working in accordance with this plan will comply with the VESI Skills and Training matrix (https://vesi.com.au/skills-and-training ).

All personnel's training and tickets will be checked prior to being inducted onsite by Vestas and uploaded to induction system "Altora" to ensure they are competent to carry out their intended work onsite. Vestas' contractors engaged to complete works in relation to the OHL and this BMP have a responsibility to ensure their workers are suitably trained, assessed as competent and authorised for the work they are performing. Vestas will assess the relevant work experience of personnel to ensure it aligns with the tasks being performed.

## 3.7 Operation and Maintenance Plans

**Fire Event Plan**

Vestas' response to emergency events is carried out in accordance with our Emergency Response Plan (GPWF-W-VES-PMG-PLN-00007).

In the event of a fire at the Golden Plains Wind Farm the following protocols will be followed by Vestas staff and contractors:

- Immediately contact Emergency Services (000) even if the fire has been extinguished, in case of potential re-ignition.

- If the fire is likely to impact high voltage assets suitably trained technicians will conduct appropriate switching activities to safely isolate supply prior to combatting the fire.
- Evacuate from the fire area and proceed to the nearest assembly point to wait for further instructions.

Vestas and its contractors are not a statutory firefighting authority however personnel onsite are trained to and utilise basic firefighting equipment to combat a fire where it is safe to do so. Fire training is arranged for personnel who are expected to carryout initial first attack firefighting duties, which shall consist of:

- The use of any firefighting equipment on-site (fire extinguishers, fire pumps and associated equipment, water cannon fire monitors and like)
- The emergency procedures for dangerous goods on-site (firefighting measures, accidental release measures and HAZCHEM Code from SDS)

The decision to self-deploy resources for initial first attack firefighting to assist the fire service (until they arrive at the fire) will be based on the resources available on-site and training of operators.

Water Tanks are installed around the Golden Plains Wind Farm site at locations detailed in the map below. These water tanks hold 45,000 litres and are accessible by nearest local fire brigade for firefighting use, and CFA connections valves are regularly checked and maintained.

| Fire Tank Number | Location | Project Area |
|---|---|---|
| CFA 01 | 219 Gumley South Road, Rokewood | GPWF-E |
| CFA 02 | 275 Bells Road, Rokewood | GPWF-E |
| CFA 03 | 647 Geggies Road, Rokewood | GPWF-E |
| CFA 04 | 284 Meadows Road, Rokewood | GPWF-E |
| CFA 05 | 507 Mill Road, Rokewood | GPWF-W |
| CFA 06 | 361 Rokewood-Skipton Road, Rokewood | GPWF-W |
| CFA 07 | 120 Littlehales Road, Werneth | GPWF-W |

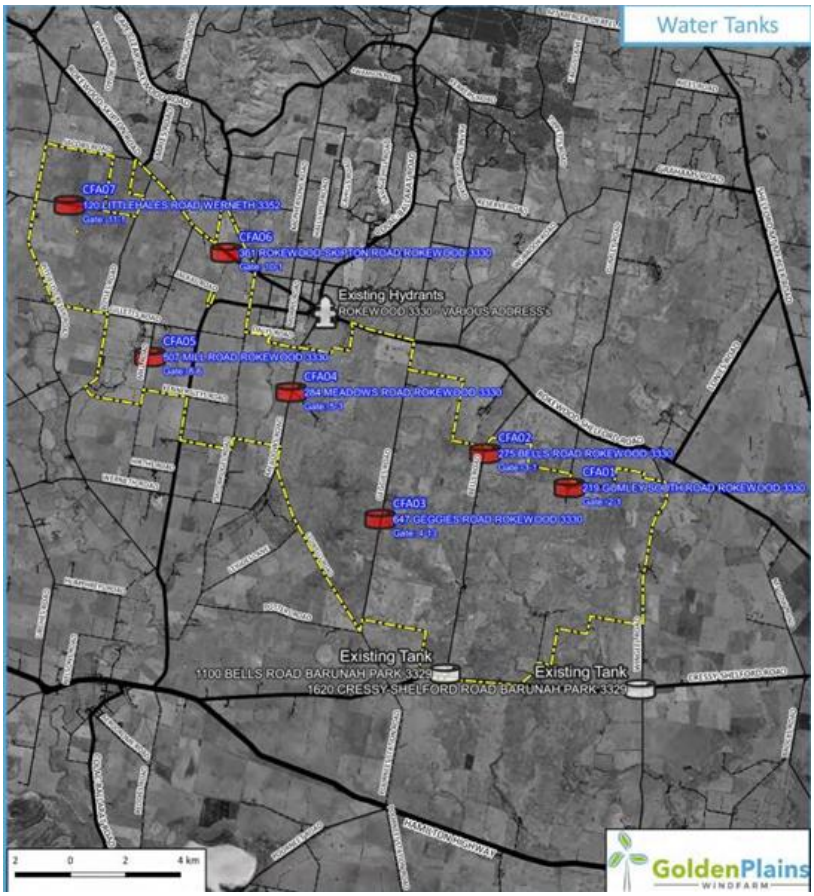


*Figure 5 Water Tank locations around Golden Plains Wind Farm*

### Total Fire Ban Day Plan

When extreme fire weather conditions are prevalent or when fires are likely to spread rapidly and be difficult to control, total fire ban days will be declared.

Activities that cannot be carried out on total fire ban days are prescribed below, which apply to the project site for day or days that the ban is issued.

- Lighting fires in the open, which includes incinerators and barbecues (BBQs) which burn solid fuel (wood, charcoal or heat beads)
- Driving or operating machinery over or near dry vegetation
- Using equipment that generates heat, sparks or flame
- Use of chainsaws to trim or fell trees and other tasks

Fire permits that provide an exemption to laws during the fire danger period or on a day of total fire ban will be requested from the fire service authority, if the work is an essential business activity. The “Can I or Can’t I” rules published by the CFA will be followed for all activities during a total fire ban day.

### Fire Danger Period Plan

Vestas will perform inspection and maintenance programs prior to declaration of the fire danger period to ensure:

- Vegetation is clear of the minimum clearance space for overhead powerlines. A 40m wide easement has been cleared of vegetation.

- Electrical assets are operational and in good condition.

Completing these programs prior to the commencement of the declared fire danger period ensures only essential operating activities and emergency works (including fault investigation) are required on electrical assets during this period, hence lowering the risk of potential fire starts. The “Can I or Can’t I” rules published by the CFA will be followed for all activities during the fire danger period.

In addition to any planning permit condition, the project site must carry out the following fuel management measures during the fire danger period.

- Long grass must be slashed to a height no higher than 300mm for vehicle and mobile plant trafficable areas and no higher than 100mm for pedestrian trafficable areas
- Fire breaks of 10 metres in width must be established around compounds, site facilities and buildings, storage locations and substations. Fire breaks must be vegetation free with no obstructions, such as stored materials and be constructed using either mineral earth or non-combustible material such as crushed rock

## 3.8 Performance Monitoring and Auditing

Vestas is committed to continuous improvement. This extends to all aspects of the business including this Bushfire Mitigation Plan.

Vestas will conduct inspections and maintenance of the transmission line asset as detailed in section 3.4 and 3.5 of this plan to ensure the possibility of fire ignition from electrical assets is minimised. They will:

- Complete annual inspections and completing actions identified to ensure vegetation remains clear of overhead powerlines.
- Completing annual inspections of overhead powerlines and associated hardware and completing identified actions to ensure electrical assets are in good working order and are operating in a way to minimise the risk of fire starts.

Any safety issues or incidents relating to electrical assets, including fire starts, are managed under Vestas’ Work Health and Safety Management Plan (WHSMP) (GPWF-W-VES-PMG-PLN-00005). Incidents and Hazards are reported and recorded as per Incident and Hazard management procedure detailed in the WHSMP.

Any incidents involving fires originating from or impacting the OHL will be formally reported to the CFA and ESV, investigated and close out actions identified to prevent the same incident from occurring again. Vestas will report, by telephone, any serious electrical incident to Energy Safe as soon as practicable after becoming aware that the serious electrical incident has occurred or is occurring and then within 20 business days provide a written report of the incident to Energy Safe.

Corrective and preventative actions are taken after incidents, and lessons are shared with the principal and other relevant stakeholders (ESV, Golden Plains Shire Council, CFA, Landholders).

The overhead transmission line in which this plan related and associated infrastructure is newly constructed. As of the date of this plan (October 2025) no previous fire stats from the overhead transmission line has been recorded.

**Monitor the Implementation of the Plan**

Prior to the declaration of the fire danger period the Vestas representative shall review the status of activities detailed within this plan and ensure readiness and compliance with relevant legislation leading

into the fire season. Vestas is in regular contact with the CFA and fire services located in Rokewood, Vic.

Vestas will perform relevant inspections prior to the declaration of the fire danger period with any identified issues rectified to ensure they are addressed prior to the fire danger period being declared.

### Audit the Implementation of the Plan

The implementation of this plan will be audited annually post fire danger period as part of the annual review of this BMP. Any hazards, incidents (e.g. fires or OHL issues) and previous audit actions relating to the OHL will be reviewed to determine their root cause. Identified corrective actions and improvements opportunities from the audit will be implemented and reviewed for close out. The intent is to provide a mechanism to assist in identifying any potential implementation deficiencies along with creating a process for continuous improvement.

Vestas will undertake regular inspections of the OHL to ensure it remains clear of vegetation and operates effectively.

### Identify Deficiencies in the Implementation or Effectiveness of the Plan

This BMP will undergo annual reviews and audits to assess its effectiveness and identify any deficiencies.In addition to planned review and auditing processes other processes which may identify deficiencies in the implementation or effectiveness of the plan include:

- Regulatory reviews, audits, and feedback.
- Incident investigations.
- Information and feedback from other relevant bodies e.g. Worksafe, CFA etc
- Feedback from the personnel responsible for the plan or others involved in its implementation.

### Change the Plan and the Plan's Implementation to Rectify Deficiencies Identified

Opportunities for continuous improvement of the plan may be identified in a range of ways. The following outline reasonably foreseeable triggers:

- Legislative change
- Policy
- Annual review
- Industry practice
- Review by the regulator (Energy Safe Victoria ESV)
- Audits
- Investigations
- Suggestions for improvement from members of the public or an officer of a public authority

Any deficiencies identified will be addressed in revised plans submitted to ESV for acceptance.

### Monitor the Effectiveness of Inspections carried out under the Plan

The effectiveness of the inspections listed in this plan and works will be monitored by a review of the inspection reports by qualified Vestas representative as part of the annual review of this Bushfire Mitigation Plan. The number of faults which occurred for that year will be compared against the targeted performance measures below.

| Category | Performance Measure | Yearly target |
|---|---|---|
| Number of faults on the OHL (Installation) | No faults on the OHL for the year due to installation or hardware issues | 0 |
| Number of faults on the OHL (Vegetation) | No faults on the OHL for the year due to vegetation line clearance | 0 |
| Number of fire started from the OHL | No fires started from the OHL | 0 |

Any incidents relating to the overhead transmission lines such as asset failures, faults, fire starts will be investigated to ensure the quality of inspections and maintenance is to a standard to prevent any incidents in relation to this BMP.

**Audit the Effectiveness of Inspections carried out under the Plan**

The effectiveness of inspection programs, and works will be audited prior to the next annual inspection by a review of inspection reports and the completion of maintenance activities and identified defect rectification works within planned timeframes by Vestas.

Annual reviews of the BMP and ELCMP will also consider the outcomes of inspection and maintenance cycles, asset defects reported, operational reliability of the assets and details of any preventable events or incidents.

## 3.9 Assistance to Fire Authorities

Vestas will assist fire control authorities in their investigation of fires near the Golden Plains Wind Farm at-risk transmission lines by:

- Assisting with safe access to assets for investigation
- Sharing appropriate information regarding an incident.
- Sharing appropriate information and records relating to inspection and maintenance reports.
- Allocating resources to assist in investigations

## 3.10 Energy Safe Victoria Exemptions

Golden Plains Wind Farm does not have any exemptions from any requirements of Electricity Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Regulations.

# Appendix A – Golden Plains Wind Farm Map

# Golden Plains Wind Farm

Vestas®

0 1 2 3 4km

N

Jacobs Rd
Littlehales Rd
Sandy Lane
Cape Clear - Rokewood Rd
Rokewood - Skipton Rd
Colac - Ballarat Rd
Two Bridges Rd
Jackas Rd
Pitfield - Cressy Rd
Boyles Rd
Gilletts Rd
Meadows Rd
Rokewood Township
Rokewood – Shelford Rd
Geggie Rd
Bells Rd
Gumley South Rd
Wingeel Rd
Kennersleys Rd
Mill Rd
Leigoes Ln
Ledwells Rd
Potters Rd
Eastern Access Rd
Cressy – Shelford Rd

Laydown Area
Batch Plant
Western Collector Station GPWC
Laydown Area
Substation GPCC
Batch Plant
Site Office
Eastern Collector Station GPEC
Terminal Station

Main Compound
- Batch plant
- Vestas Laydown
- BoP Laydown
- O&M Facility

- GPWF East
- GPWF West
- Public Roads
- No Go Roads
- Site Acces Roads
- Vestas Site Compounds
- Substations
- Wind Turbine East
- Wind Turbine West
- Overhead Transmission Lines East