Minutes – Delburn Wind Farm Community and Stakeholder Consultative Committee Meeting 4

28/06/2021
Boolarra Multipurpose Building
4:30-6:45pm

Attendees:

- Anthony Boxshall (Chair)
- Graeme Wilson (Delburn)
- Heather Butler (Mirboo North)
- Chris Milne (Boolarra)
- Trevor Hoare (SSF)
- Wendy Farmer (Voices of the Valley)
- Lorraine Bull (GCCN)
- Peter Mooney (GTLC)
- Ruth Ryan (HVP)
- Hugh Thompson (HVP)
- Elizabeth Radcliffe (OSMI)
- Ruth Harper (Secretariat)
- Stacey Clark (Observer, EPA)
- Rob Waycott (Observer, Mirboo North Times)

Apologies: Tony Wolfe (Coal Industry worker), Charlie Solomon (GLaWAC), Rhain Bateman (WGCMA), Mike Timpano (LVA), Tomas Mabin (Driffield).

Minutes

Agenda Item 1: Welcomes, aims for tonight

The Chair opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional owners of the lands that we were meeting on, the Gunaikurnai, and paid his respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

The Chair revisited his expectations in relation to interactions within the committee requesting:

- Constructive frankness,
- Respect,
- Confidence and humility, and
- Representative perspective

The Chair reviewed the purpose of the meeting – to revisit Conflict of Interest and to learn more about fire risk and management.

There was an update of the planning process from OSMI. It was noted that the referral should be going out to stakeholders soon, and that it was likely that OSMI would be required to send formal notification out to every dwelling within 5 kms of the project boundary (as well as publish notices in the local press).

Agenda item 2: Introduction, Observers and Conflicts of Interest

The Chair welcomed all participants and introduced Ruth Ryan (HVP - presenter) and Rob Waycott (Mirboo North Times - observer).

A potential conflict of interest was declared. Wendy Farmer announced that she has accepted a role as the Friends of the Earth Yes to Renewables Gippsland campaigner. This is a paid position. Given that Wendy has been public about her support of renewable energy in the past, but still believes it needs to be developed in a safe and fair way, the Committee was of a consensus that the position won't impact Wendy's position on the Committee. The Conflicts of Interest register on the OSMI website will be updated to reflect this. This will be revisited at each meeting.

Agenda item 3: Review of Actions arising from last meeting

Committee members were asked if they had any additional questions to add to the FAQs list. It was suggested that one of the FAQs directly address whether or not the Strzelecki koala will be impacted by the project.

The concept of the storm and flood recovery fund was discussed. Initially, it was suggested that the funds be donated to one of the existing aid organisations such as Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund, Need 4 Feed or Blaze Aid. The conversation then moved towards contributing towards developing the community's ability to respond to emergency events on the future, in particular to extended black outs. There were some ideas shared around providing equipment to community centres, which then extended to building the capacity of community buildings to provide a power source during black outs, thus providing community members with a place to heat water for baby formula, keep warm, have a hot shower and a meal. This could be achieved by installing solar panels with a battery, or adding a battery to existing solar systems, with or without a back-up generator. Committee members were asked to reflect more on the question over the next month.

Agenda item 4: Conflict of Interest

The Chair noted that there will be two phases of the Committee.

In the initial phase, which is primarily about information sharing, during which there will be very limited decision making required of the Committee. In this phase, there are unlikely to be any genuine conflicts of interest.

The second phase will be when there are decisions made around the community benefits program. During that phase, the potential for financial gain by individuals or groups within which people may be members exists. This will require anyone who has an interest in an organisation that has the potential to benefit from this program to declare their interest so that it may be appropriately managed.

It was noted that expressing a public opinion for or against this or any wind farm is not a conflict of interest. In fact, sharing different views is important to a group such as the Committee.

While noting that they were written for people in roles as Directors, the Chair shared two documents outlining the different types and definitions of conflict of interest as a useful and more concrete way to understand conflicts of interest. One is by DELWP and is used for appointments to Boards. The other is a discussion by the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) about managing conflicts of interest. Both are linked here (DELWP, AICD). The difference between potential, perceived and actual conflicts was discussed, as well as pecuniary verses non-pecuniary conflicts.

A number of different hypothetical scenarios were discussed. The Committee shared a view that conflict of interests will only really arise for the CSCC when someone (or their direct relative or group

they represent) is set to benefit financially from the project. The Chair noted that transparency and sunlight are the best disinfectant for conflicts of interest.

Agenda item 5: Fire Risk and Management

Before the presentations began, the Chair acknowledged the existing fire trauma in the area and discussed emergency response and preparedness. He noted that that Emergency Management Victoria explains that everyone has a personal responsibility to ensure they are adequately prepared to contribute to their own safety, and that responders take an "all emergencies, all agencies" approach to joint emergency response.

The HVP presentation discussed HVP core business, the fundamental need to protect assets (i.e., the timber), and the overall approach to fire prevention and response. HVP outlined the capability and processes in place regardless of the proposed wind farm.

The OSMI presentation went on to discuss in detail the existing fire risk at the project site, how the proposed wind farm would change that fire risk, what mitigations are being proposed to manage that risk, and what is proposed to enhance detection and response capabilities in the area. A range of preventative measures that would be implemented to reduce any potential risks associated with the project were also explained. From discussion after the presentation, it was agreed that the biggest community fear around fire and the wind farm is that the turbines will prevent aerial firefighting. While this is not the case and the proposed distances between wind farm towers are at least twice that recommended by the recent CFA guidance for wind farms, it was noted that until the community have a lived experience of this, it will likely remain the perception.

Wrap Up

A decision regarding the date and topic for the next meeting will be made when there is more certainty around the planning process timing.

Next meeting

To be determined.

Actions arising:

- OSMI to updated conflict of interest register on website
- Committee members to consult widely with their networks and suggest potential projects that may benefit from support from the Storm and Flood recovery Fund

Rolling Actions

- All committee members to communicate widely about the CSCC seeking further members particularly from communities local to the planned wind farm, highlighting the desire for a diversity of opinions.

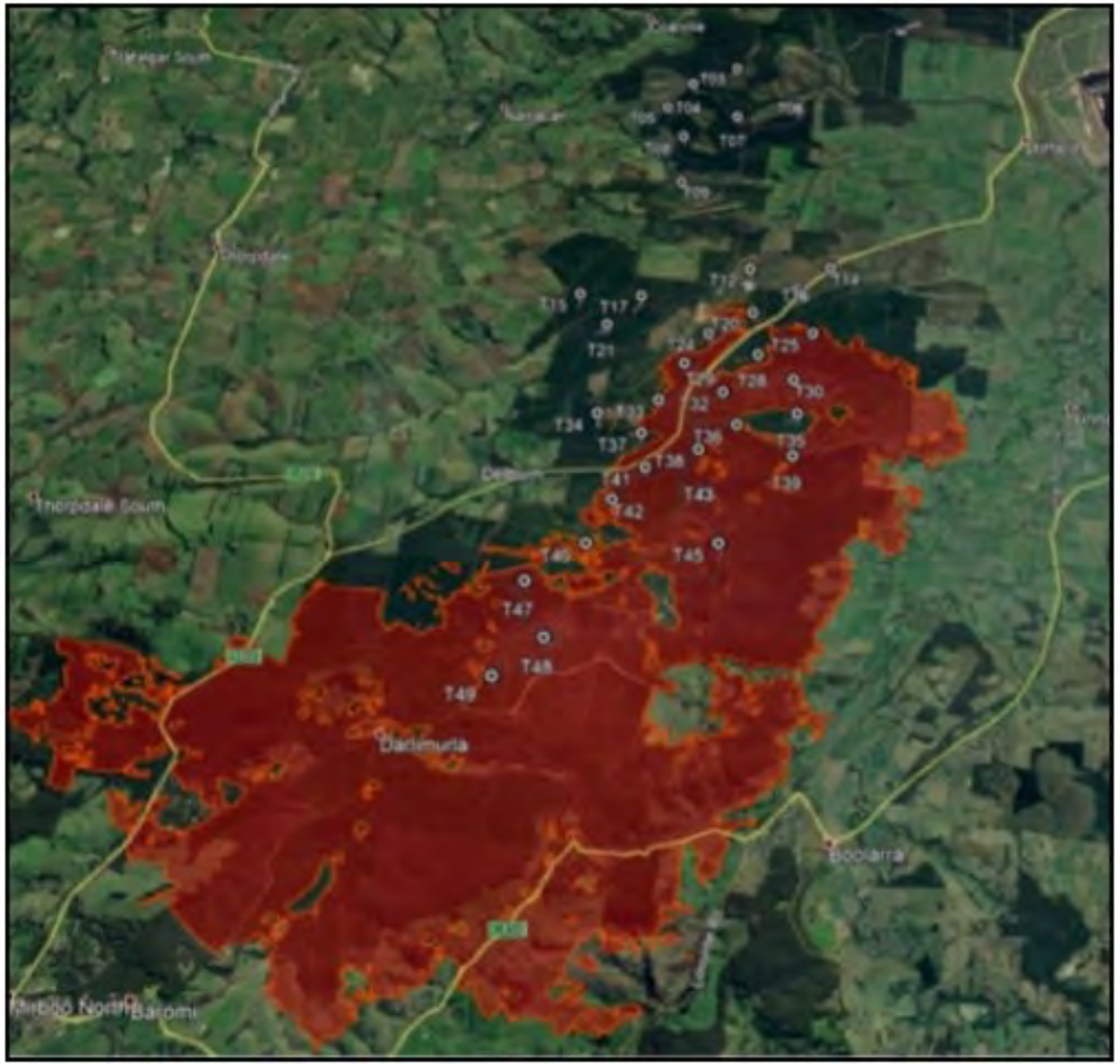
- Committee members to send ideas about topics you would like covered at future Committee meetings to cscc@delburnwindfarm.com.au. There is no limit on the number of items a committee member can nominated.
- All committee members to review the Managing Conflict of Interest information online site https://osmi.com.au/consultative-committee and advise the Chair of any potential, perceived or actual conflicts of interest that before the next meeting.

Delburn Wind Farm
Discussion of Fire Risks posed by the project

Community and Stakeholder Consultative Committee Meeting - June 2021

Does the wind farm increase fire risk?

- State emergency management priorities
- Current environment and existing risks
- History of fire in the area
- Current response capability
- Additional risks due to the wind farm
  - Construction
  - Operation
- Controls to be adopted
  - Construction
  - Operation
- Impacts on Fire Bombing
- Fire Behaviour Modelling
- Where does CFA sit on this?



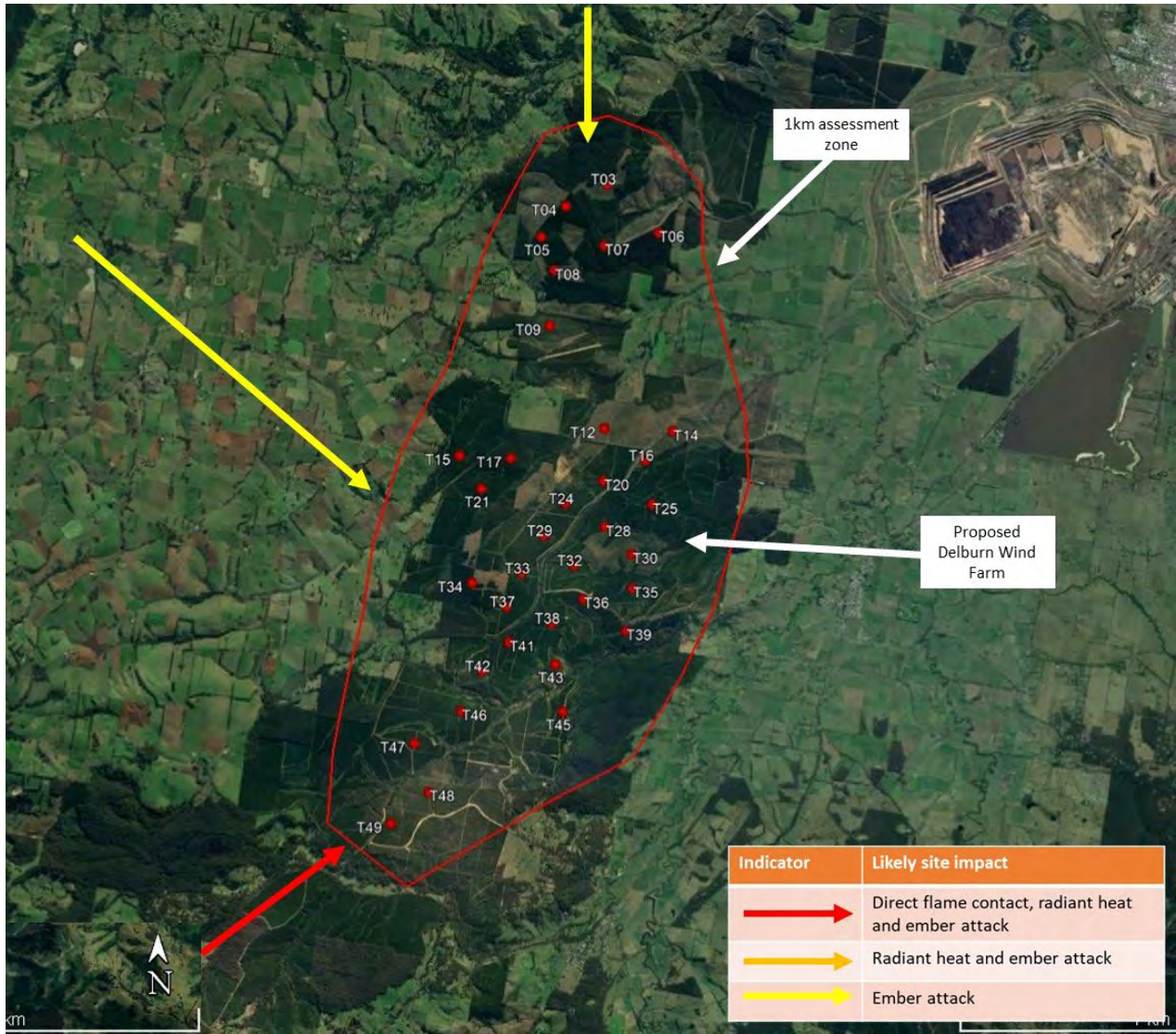
2009 Delburn fire complex

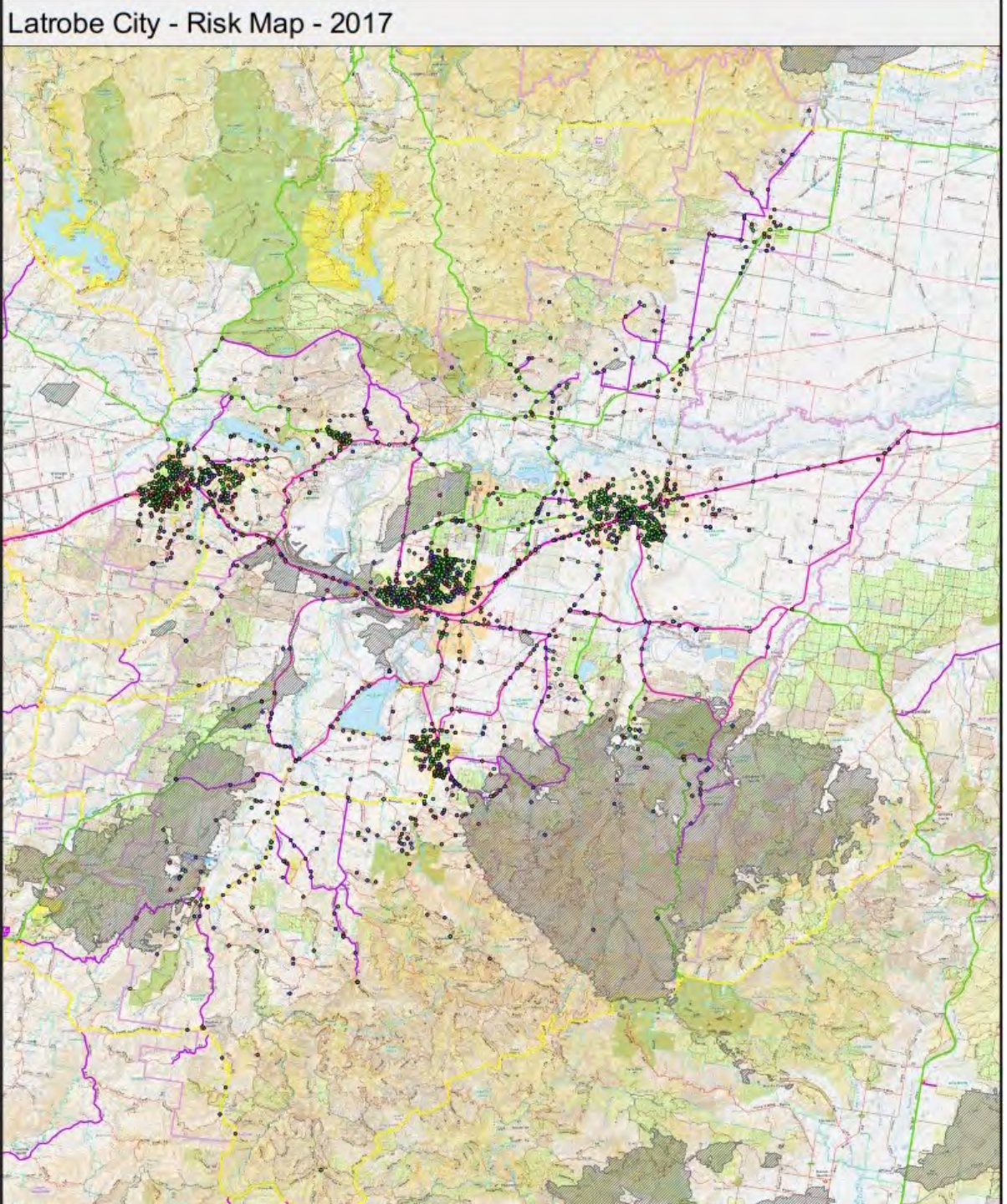
The State Emergency Management Priorities

- Protection and preservation of life and relief of suffering is paramount. This includes:
  - Safety of emergency services personnel; and
  - Safety of community members including vulnerable community members and visitors/tourists
- Issuing of community information and community warnings detailing incident information that is timely, relevant and tailored to assist community members make informed decisions about their safety
- Protection of critical infrastructure and community assets that support community resilience
- Protection of residential property as a place of primary residence
- Protection of assets supporting individual livelihoods and economic production that supports individual and community financial sustainability
- Protection of environmental and conservation assets that considers the cultural, biodiversity and social values of the environment.

Current environment

- The entire Delburn Wind Farm is within a Bushfire Management Overlay and Bushfire Prone Area
- There have been a number of bushfires in the area surrounding the project dating back to 1898, and most recently in 2009 and 2014 which impacted the project area and surrounding communities.
- Specific risks to the plantation from fires burning outside the plantation include
  - Active fire front from contiguous bush to the SW
  - Ember attack from fires to the North and North West





Fire in Latrobe

- Around 96% of bushfires in Latrobe, occur in scrub or bush and grass type vegetation
  - Approximately half are contained to less than one hectare in size
- 22% of fires have an unknown ignition source
- Where cause is known the top three ignition factors are:
  - Deliberately lit or suspicious fires 32.7%
  - Unattended or inadequately controlled fires in the open 9.4%
  - Fuel reduction burns on private land 6.7%

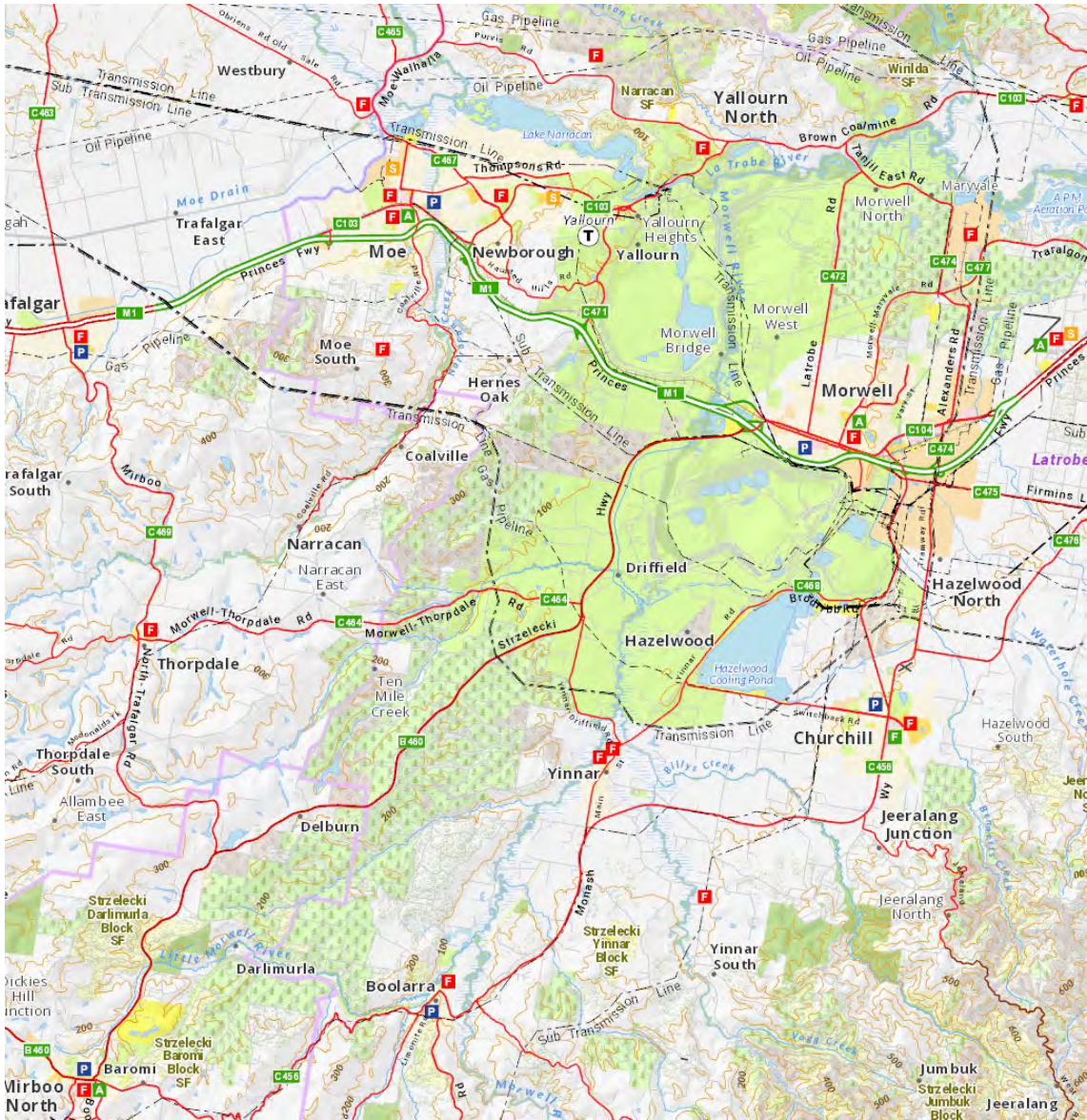
Fire ignitions in Latrobe City 2010-2017 (CFA)

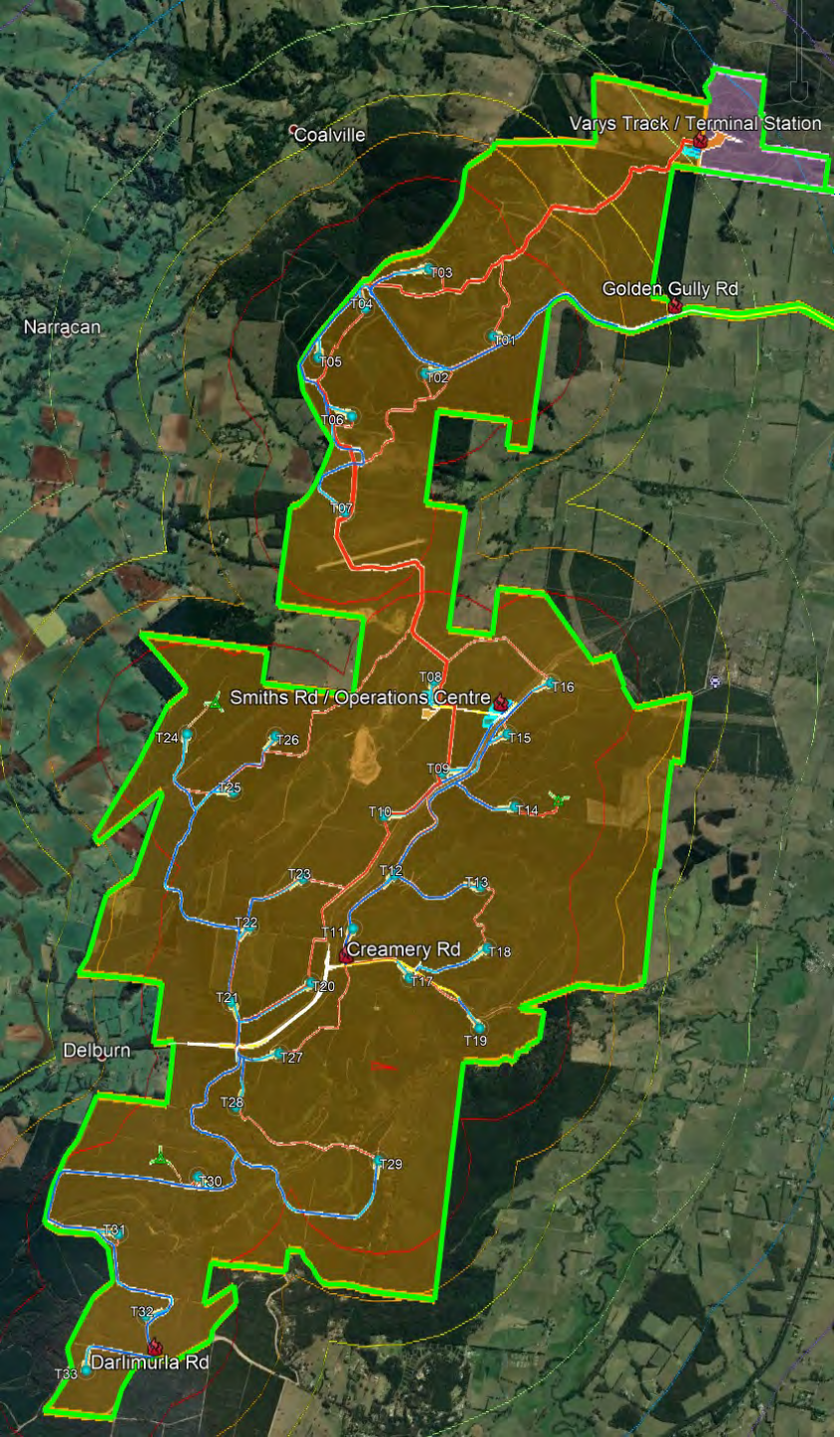
Existing Response Capability

Context - Role of EMV

Leading emergency management in Victoria by working with *communities, government, agencies and business* to strengthen their capacity to withstand, plan for, respond to and recover from emergencies

- CFA and FRV fire fighting resources surround the site.
- FFMV employs both permanent and seasonal firefighters across Gippsland
- Agencies have aircraft based at Latrobe Valley Airport that operate on predetermined dispatch arrangements
- HVP Gippsland Forest Industry Brigade has over 100 members who operate under CFA command and regularly turn out to support CFA brigades





Additional fire risks from wind farms

- During construction
  - Ignition sources such as hot works
  - Increased traffic in vegetated areas
  - Increased activity in the plantation
- During operations
  - Powerline fires
  - Turbine Fires
  - Lighting strikes

Controls to be adopted - Construction

- HVP's operational protocols for Forest Operations will be adopted, eg:
  - high risk activities such as hot works on days of heightened fire risk will be prohibited
  - only approved vehicles are permitted to access the plantation
  - all vehicles are required to carry basic fire suppression equipment.
- All contractors and staff will receive bush fire training
- A mobile fire fighting unit will be located at each work front
- Fuel storages will be constructed away from vegetated areas and will be bunded to prevent fuel leakage becoming a fire hazard

Controls to be adopted - Operations

- Fire detection and suppression systems with remote alarming will be included in all nacelles
- Low flammability lubricants and coolants will be used where available
- All turbines will be installed with lightning conductors to dissipate electricity to the ground
- Remote shut down procedures will be established
- Surveillance cameras to strategically located on turbine towers of masts to allow early detection of fires across the plantation.
- Transmission cables will be underground except a short length (~100m) of 220kV line at network connection point
- Increased operational activity in the plantation will act as deterrent against arsonists
- Non-combustible cleared area of 50m radius around the base of all turbines
- All operational vehicles will be equipped with basic fire suppression tools.
- Annual joint operations planning with all agencies
- All wind farm staff will be trained as first responders and will join the HVP Gippsland Forest Industry Brigade
- Mobile fire fighting unit will be located at the operations depot and deployed to appropriate locations across the site where works are being conducted on high-risk days
- Additional 5 x 45,000L static fire water storages will be constructed to supplement existing water supplies at strategic locations around the site
- Roads built during construction phase will be maintained to provide additional fire breaks and ensure unimpeded access for incident response

Impact on firebombing

- Wind turbines are not expected to pose unacceptable risks
- Turbines can be remotely shut down and parked in the Y position facilitate aerial bombing
- Fire bombing is undertaken under visual flight rules only
- 600-1000m spacing between turbines to allow fire suppression aircraft to operate around the facility (minimum required by CFA is 300m)
- AFAC guidelines note:
  - Wind monitoring towers can be less visible than turbines and so locations should be noted during aerial firefighting operations
  - Turbine towers will be treated similar to other tall obstacles. Pilots and Air Ops Managers will assess these risks as part of route procedures.

Fire behaviour modelling

Using 2009 scenario - three points of ignition

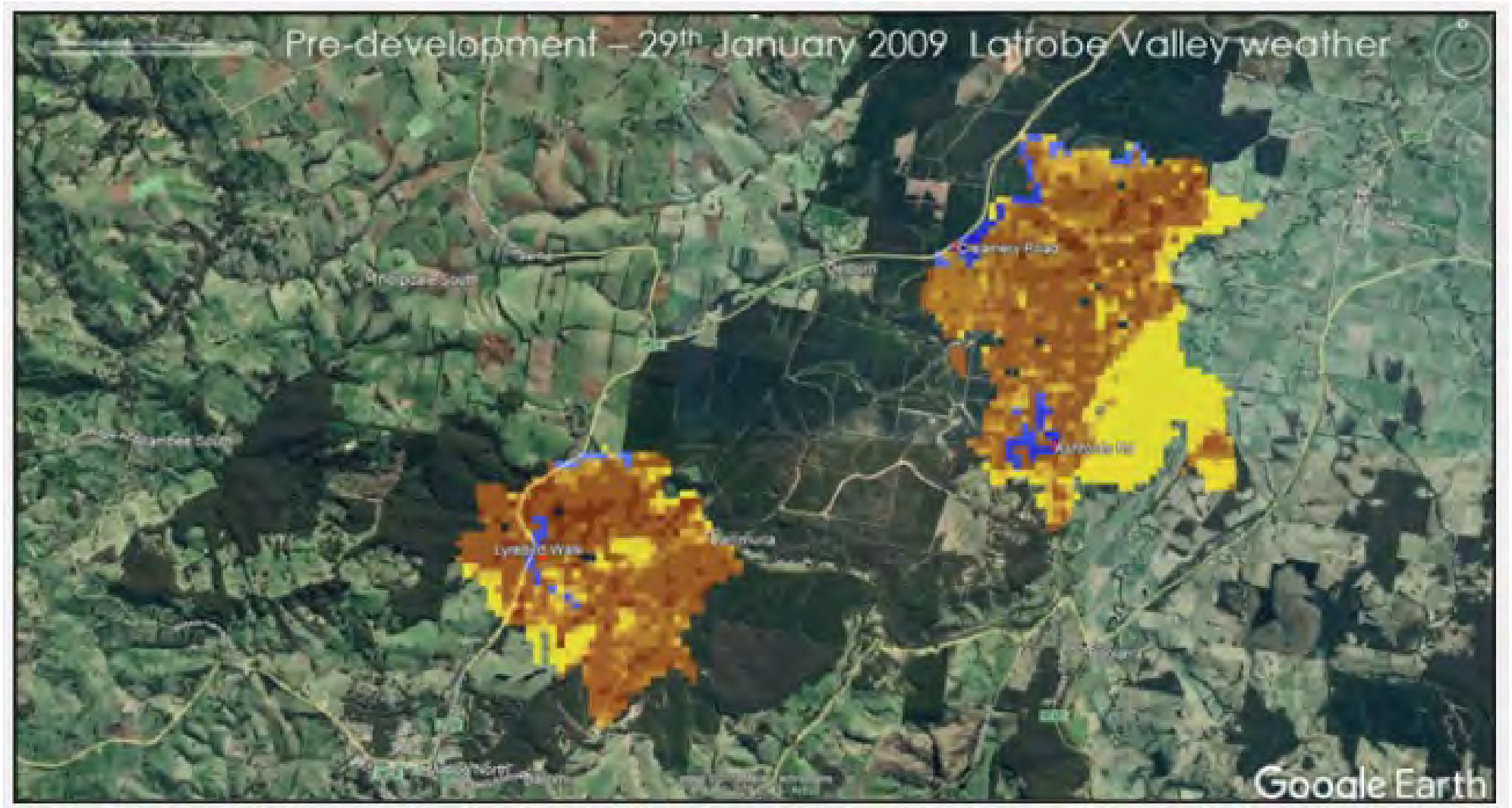
- Lyrebird Walk
- Ashfords Road
- Creamery Road

Each fire assigned

- 2 x slip-ons
- 4 x tankers and
- a medium helicopter

Fire behaviour modelling

Results of computer modelled fire with existing ground conditions and prevailing weather conditions on 29 January 2009



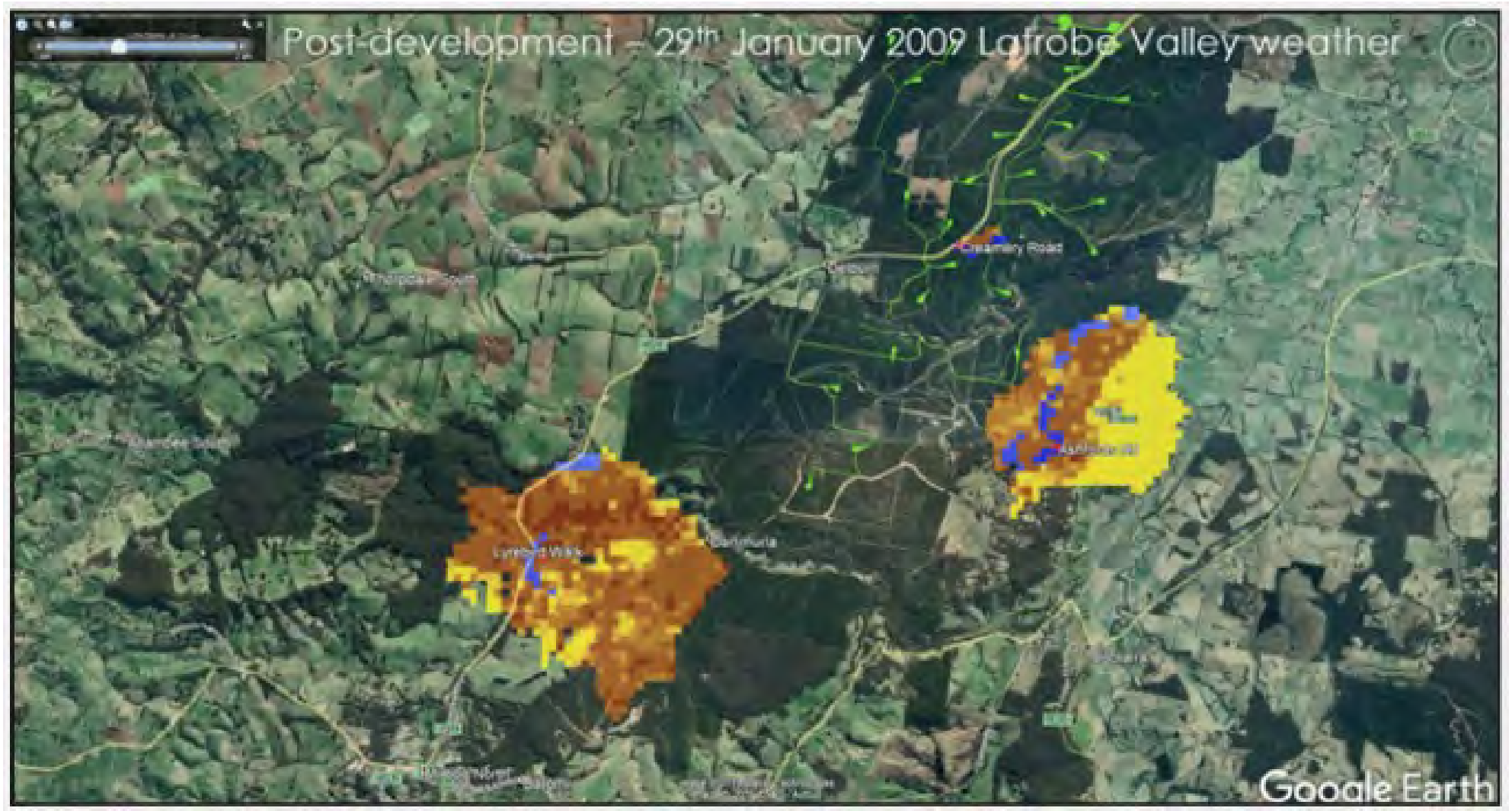
Fire behaviour modelling with turbines

Changes include:

- Increased Vegetation clearance for
  - New and widened roads up to 20m in width
  - Cable routes - 10m in width
  - Turbine locations with 50m cleared radius
- Model rerun
  - Same three ignition locations
  - Same weather
  - Same fire response

Fire behaviour modelling

Output of computer modelled run with change conditions to include wind farm infrastructure



Why haven't we heard from CFA?

CFA is a referral authority under the Planning and Environment Act for wind energy facilities and has a formal role the planning application process

CFA has Guidelines for Renewable Energy Installations

Specific requirements in these guidelines for wind farms include:

- Nacelles to be equipped with fire detection and suppression systems
- A minimum 300m spacing between turbines to allow fire suppression aircraft to operate around the facility
- Non-combustible cleared area of at least 10m radius around the base of each turbine.
- Monitoring towers >100' to be clearly marked and with guys fitted with markers
- Maintain construction roads around the wind farm to allow access for emergency vehicles

Air tractor firebombing around turbines at Waterloo Wind Farm 2017

Questions?

www.osmi.com.au

contactus@osmi.com.au

1800 OSMIAU

HVP – Bushfire Risk Management

Ruth Ryan – HVP Corporate Fire Manager

Our Mission is to manage the plantation estate in a safe and sustainable way to optimise the return to our investors, whilst balancing the needs of our employees, customers and local communities.

HVP plantations


VOLVO NOTLEY TRANSPORT

Prevention & Mitigation

- Geographic spread
- Plantation subdivision
- Firebreaks
- Roads & fire access tracks
- Water points
- Fire detection:
    - Fire Towers
    - Spotter aircraft
    - Neighbours
    - 000 – FIRECOM (Vicfire)

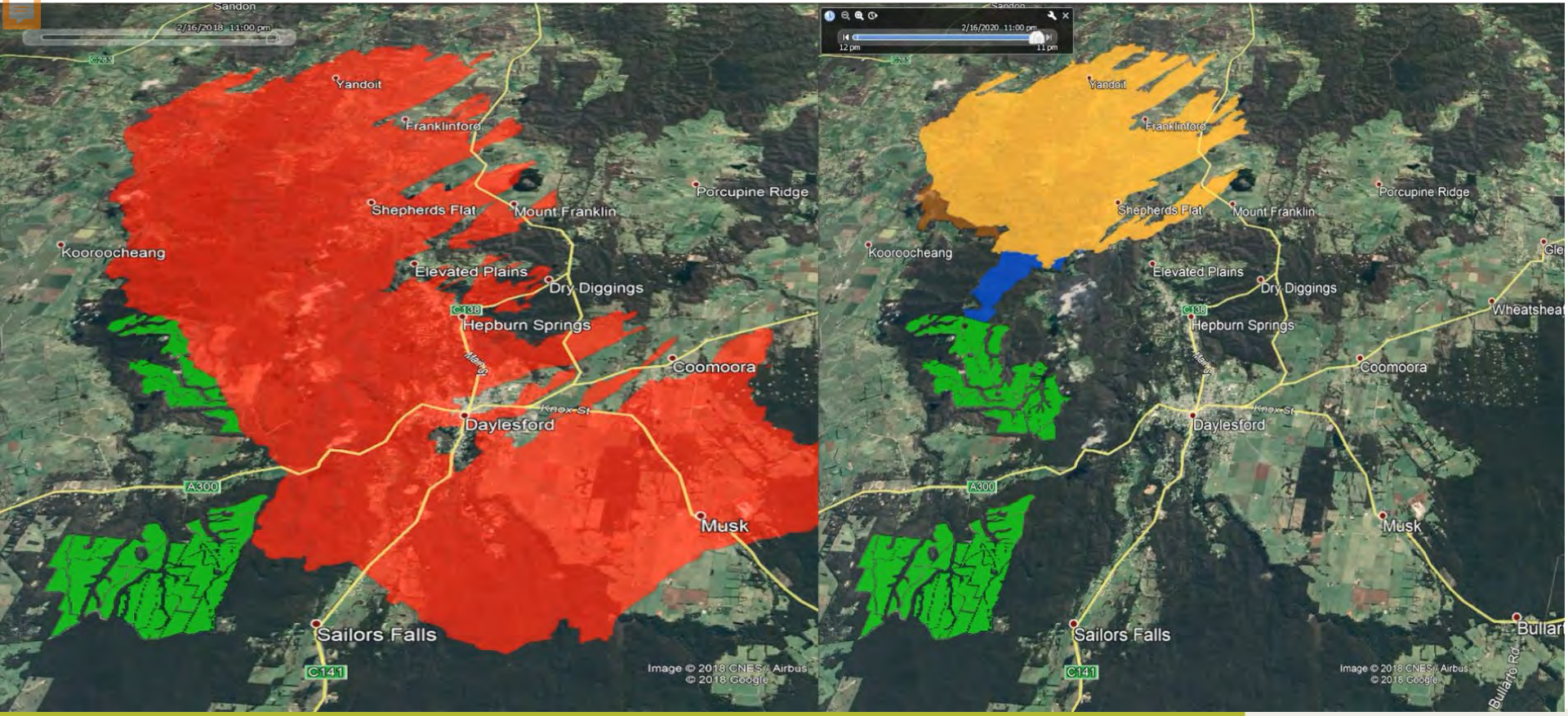
Fuel Management

Within HVP estate

- **Fuel reduction & ecological burning**
- **Mechanical removal:**
    - slashing / mulching, grading, ploughing
- **Silvicultural treatments:**
    - burning, chopper rolling, weed control, thinning

Outside HVP estate

- **Joint Fuel Management Program with CFA / FFMVic**

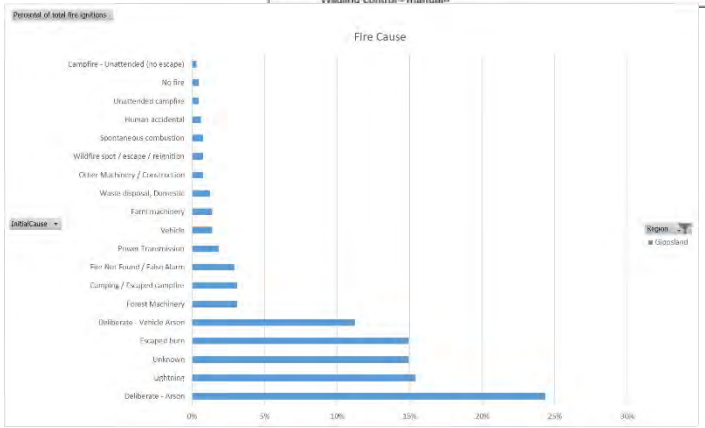


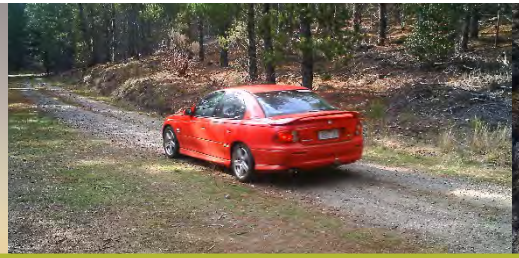
Basalt Plantation – effects of fuel reduction burning

Prevent fires occurring

- Forest Operation Restrictions
- Fire equipment all contractors
- Analysis of fire cause & location
- Arson prevention programs
  - GAPP
  - Cameras
  - Community education
  - Fire investigation

Activity	Level A	Level B	Level C	Level D	Level E	Level F
Actual Measured FFDI In Field Cut off Point		20	30	35	45+	75+
Harvesting & Haulage						
Timber Harvesting Operations			12:00 hours	12:00 hours	09:00 hours	09:00 hours
Log Haulage & Loading Operations / Floating machinery				12:00 hours	09:00 hours	09:00 hours
Chainsaws						
Chainsaws without mobile firefighting unit		14:00 hours	12:00 hours	12:00 hours	09:00 hours	09:00 hours
Chainsaws with mobile firefighting units			12:00 hours	12:00 hours	09:00 hours	09:00 hours
Battery operated chainsaws				12:00 hours	09:00 hours	09:00 hours
Weed / Wilding control						
Brushcutters without mobile firefighting units		14:00 hours	12:00 hours	12:00 hours	09:00 hours	09:00 hours
Brushcutters with mobile firefighting units			12:00 hours	12:00 hours	09:00 hours	09:00 hours
Wilding control – manuale					09:00 hours	09:00 hours





CFA Forest Industry Brigades

- Legislated in the CFA Act and Regulations
- HVP was the first company to gain FIB status
  > 23 years service in CFA
- Fire response under the control of the CFA
- FIB members & officers have the same powers as CFA volunteers
- FIB equipment meets CFA standards
- Fully integrated into CFA response and incident management

Rapid & skilled response

- **7 CFA Forest Industry Brigades**
  - HVP Gippsland
  - HVP Ovens
  - HVP Delatite
  - HVP Shelley
  - HVP Ballarat
  - HVP Otway
  - HVP Rennick

> 200 trained firefighters
20 firetankers
> 35 Slip-on units
2 SAU helicopters
Heavy plant
Spotter planes
4 Fire lookout towers

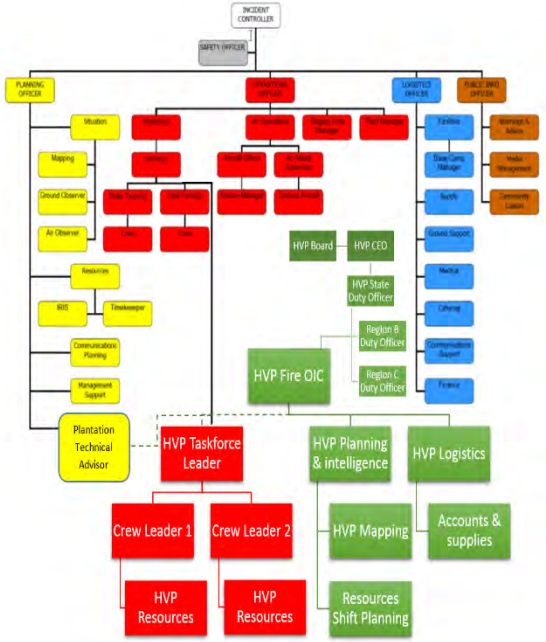
Working with our fire communities

Strong relationships with the CFA & Forest Fire Management Vic (FFMVic)

- HVP fully integrated into the fire management & response systems
- All vehicles have fully compatible fire radios
- Joint training & exercising

Forest Fire – intrastate / interstate / international

- Forest Fire Management Group
- Plantation owners / managers fire cooperation
    - Green triangle Fire Alliance
    - HQ Plantations Queensland / HFM New Zealand



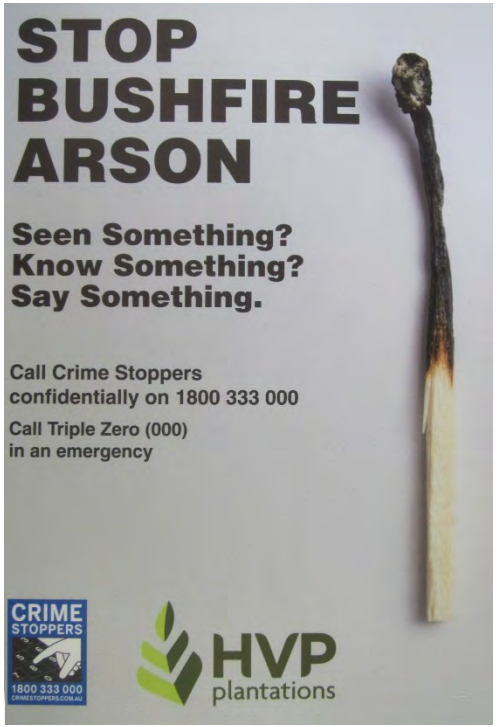
Working with our local communities

You are our eyes and ears in the community

- Report suspicious behaviour to Crime Stoppers
- Report fires to 000

Fire does not respect boundaries

- We have all got a responsibility to manage fire risk
- Let's work together to manage our risk



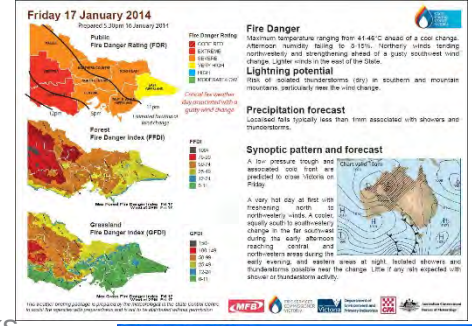
Information

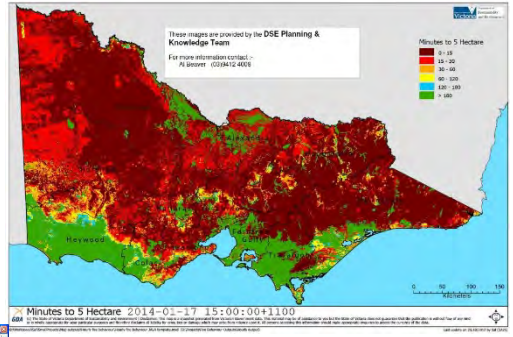
Preparation

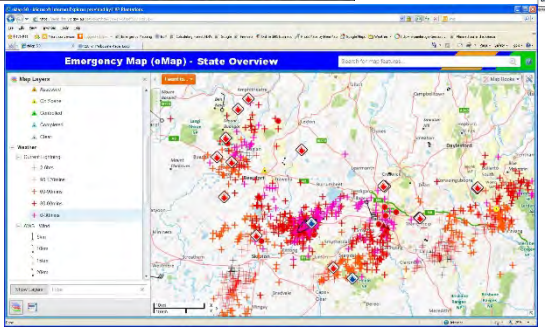
- Climate & expected season
- Daily weather forecasts & 7 day outlooks
- Expected fire behavior
- Location of resources

When a fire has started

- Location
- Who else is attending?
- Fire spread modelling











SNAP LOCK
LIVERY POINT

Fire Management is everyone's responsibility

EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY
zero HARM
HEALTH | SAFETY | ENVIRONMENT

HVP Fire Commitment

When it comes to fire, for HVP…
Every person counts…and
Every tree counts…

In the urgency of response we will never forget the health, safety and welfare of ourselves, our firefighters and the community.

We value every tree that is threatened by fire and will do our utmost to minimise the impact on our investors, our forests and our customers.

All HVP personnel have a role to play in fire and our fire response will be swift but calm, purposeful and thorough.

We are professional forest growers with specialist skills in forest fire management which we will use to enhance the community's response to fire.

Our responses will be structured, proactive and skilful and always within the overall command and control of the emergency services.

We will train hard, work hard and review our actions to ensure on-going learning from all incidents.

We commit to training and development and creating pathways for the fireline leaders of the future.

We will keep abreast of developments in fire science, adopt innovative ideas to investigate risk and mitigation and use mobile technology to keep people informed on and off the fireline.

And…

We will work Safer Together with the people of Victoria to ensure the resilience of our local communities in the face of fire.