

October 2025

Bushfire assessment as part of the Environment Effects Statement

Victoria is one of the most bushfire-prone regions in the world. That's why careful planning is essential for any new infrastructure.

The Gippsland offshore wind transmission project will connect offshore wind energy generated off the Gippsland coast to Victoria's electricity grid.

An Environment Effects Statement (EES) is being prepared to assess the project's potential social, economic, cultural and environmental impacts and to ensure the infrastructure is safe for communities and our environment.

As part of the EES, VicGrid is carrying out a bushfire risk assessment, which is one of 17 technical studies included in the process.

This assessment will identify bushfire risks and guide the development of protection and mitigation strategies for the proposed infrastructure. It includes both desktop and field studies, such as bushfire modelling, hazard and risk mapping, infrastructure analysis and mapping of bushfire-prone areas.

Modelling helps us understand how fire might behave under different environmental conditions, while mapping provides a visual overview of potential hazards and areas that require specific design choices.

Field studies with CFA

VicGrid will carry out site walks with the Country Fire Authority (CFA) at several locations within the study area to assess vegetation types and fuel loads on the ground. These technical assessments reflect local conditions and advice, ensuring further technical investigations are comprehensive.

We're also reviewing historical fire weather data and assessing the region's capacity to respond to bushfires. This includes looking at planned burns for fuel management, as well as for ecological and cultural purposes.

Feedback

The EES will be made available for public exhibition in 2026. This will be your opportunity to review the findings of the environmental and technical studies and have your say by making a submission.

To stay updated on our latest EES news and events, follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn or sign up for our newsletter at energy.vic.gov.au/renewable-energy/vicgrid