



Bushfire Mitigation Plan 2025

Lockwood Facility

Version 2.2

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Contact Information

Specified Operator

Registered Company Name	Hazeldene's Chicken Farm Pty. Ltd.
Trading Company Name	Hazeldenes
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ACN	004 381 346
Site Address	74 Hazeldenes Road, Lockwood, Vic, 3551
Specified Operator	Hazeldene's Chicken Farm Pty. Ltd.
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Plan Development

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Plan Application

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Company Information and Location

Hazeldenes is an integrated poultry processor, with a large processing facility located in Lockwood, Victoria (approximately 15km from Bendigo) and a hatchery site in East Bendigo. Hazeldenes receives poultry from a number of farms which are located across the central Victoria region.

Bushfire Mitigation Policy

Hazeldenes is committed to upholding the health and safety of its people, the community and the environment in which it operates. In alignment with our H&S Policy and safety management system procedures, we are committed to the principle of risk mitigation. This includes the ignition of fire from electrical hazards and recognizing the significant threat this may pose to our people, property and the environment. It is for this reason this Bushfire Mitigation Plan has been developed.

It is the responsibility of the 'Plan Application' person mentioned above to ensure that the plan is carried out.

Objectives of the Bushfire Mitigation Plan

The key objective of this Bushfire Mitigation Plan is to minimize the risk of fire from at risk electric lines. We achieve this through:

- Elimination of ignition sources.
- Maintenance of equipment and apparatus.
- Maintenance of separation between potential ignition sources and flammable material

This Bushfire Mitigation Plan provides a framework to manage the bushfire risks associated with Hazeldenes Chicken Farm. The aim is to:

- Protect the health and safety of the local community.
- Minimize environmental impacts of our operations and mitigation activities.
- Ensure safe clearances are maintained.
- Reduce the risk of fires and power interruptions

This Bushfire Mitigation Plan aligns with the Hazeldenes Electric Line Clearance Management Plan - 2025. This plan was developed and published in August 2025. At the time of its development, no outstanding tree clearing was required.

Description

General Description

The approximately 112 ha chicken processing facility located at 74 Hazeldenes Road in Lockwood and consists of approximately 20% hardstand/buildings and 80% grasslands. A majority of the original bushland was cleared long ago. The site relies on a high voltage underground network 22KV with a small portion (480m) above ground which is deemed as low fire risk. These overhead lines exist within cleared bush land running East to West. The power lines located on the property run East/West and stretch for approximately 480m only. All 8 Hazeldenes poles are concrete. The poles have been in service from at least 2001.

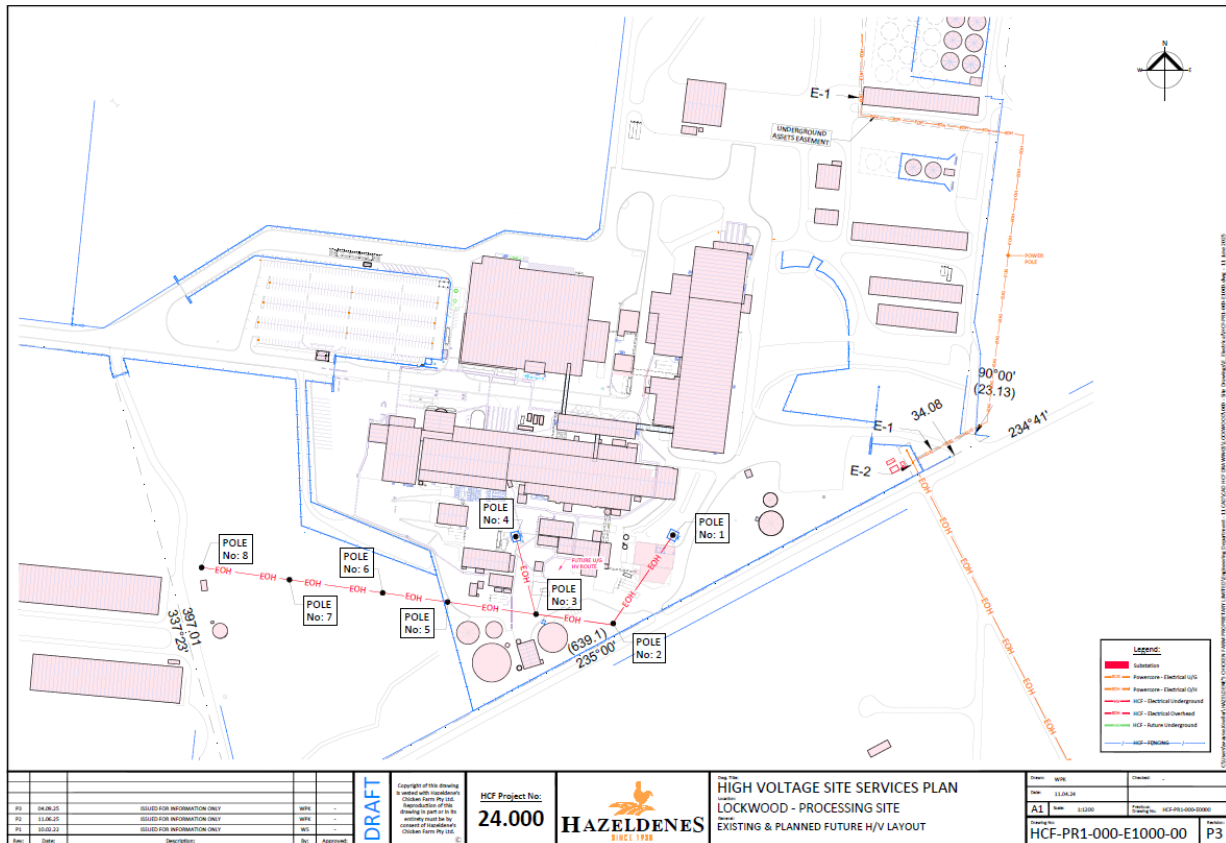


Figure 1 – Site Map with Power Pole Locations and numbers (High Voltage Services Plan)

Overhead Power Lines

This Bushfire Mitigation Plan applies to 480 metres of overhead lines and 8 concrete poles. All poles are owned by Hazeldenes. The infrastructure and surrounding area is maintained by Hazeldenes. The above mentioned at-risk electric line is in (according to definition and EnergySafe Victoria) a Hazardous Bushfire Risk Area (HBRA). All lines are located within Hazeldenes property/perimeter fence line.

Aerial Conductor's Details

- Conductor size: 7/3.00 AL
- Voltage 22kV
- Total conductor span 480m
- Pole 1 to pole 2 - 86m
- Pole 2 to pole 3 - 61m
- Pole 3 to pole 4 - 66m
- Pole 3 to pole 5 - 70m
- Pole 5 to pole 6 - 53m
- Pole 6 to pole 7 - 75m
- Pole 7 to pole 8 - 70m

Images (Electrical Infrastructure)



Photo 1: Powercor supply poles, sub station 1, REFCL isolation transformer 1;1

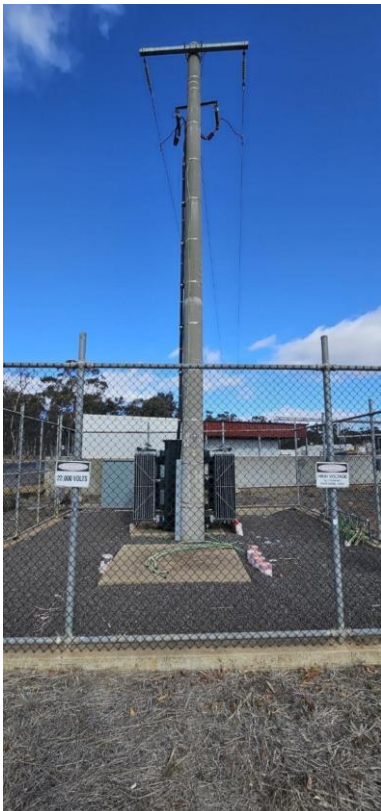


Photo 2: Pole 1



Photo 3: Pole 2



Photo 4: Pole 3



Photo 5: Pole 4



Photo 6: Pole 5



Photo 7: Pole 6



Photo 8: Pole 7



Photo 9: Pole 8

Bushfire Prevention/Other Hazards Strategies and Programs

This Bushfire Mitigation Plan provides the strategies and programs for the prevention of bushfires caused by the operation of Hazeldenes. The risk of bushfire will be minimised through the following:

- Application of risk management process in accordance with the Hazeldenes Risk Management Procedure (SWSOP025 S&W Risk Management Procedure).
- Undertaking inspections and preventative maintenance of electrical assets.
- Ensuring the competency of personnel engaged in high-risk work.
- Maintain easements to ensure appropriate vegetation management.

It should be noted that the vegetation in and around the assets is restricted to mostly grassland and hardstand (see photos 1- 8). The company also has an Electrical Line Clearance Management Plan which indicates how this is managed. As of the 5th September 2025, there is no outstanding tree clearing planned in or around the assets.

It should also be noted that no ‘fire starts’ from either at risk electrical lines or other sources have ever been recorded from the on site at risk lines.

Vehicle Hazards

Although several poles above are within areas that also accommodate forklifts, heavy vehicles and car traffic these are controlled with other means. Strict vehicle speeds, structural bollards/tyres and fences are used to limit the exposure of these to the assets.

As part of our bushfire risk mitigation strategy, we utilize a Computerised Maintenance Management System (CMMS) to schedule, track, and manage all maintenance activities related to high voltage overhead power lines. The CMMS ensures that preventative maintenance tasks, such as line inspections, vegetation clearance, hardware checks, and thermal imaging are carried out in accordance with prescribed timeframes and regulatory requirements. Automated reminders and work order generation within the system help ensure that no critical task is overlooked, reducing the likelihood of faults that could lead to fire ignition. This system also provides a reliable audit trail of completed work, supporting compliance and continuous improvement in our bushfire prevention effort

List of current policies:

Policy 1257 - LP SITE HV, SERVICE & INSPECTION - 3 YEARLY - Nilsons

Policy 1644 - LP LOCKWOOD SITE, THERMOGRAPHIC IMAGING SURVEY - 12 MONTHLY including inspection and validation of impact of vegetation growth affecting HV lines - External contractor - Nilsons

Policy 1312 - LP SUB-STATION PIT PUMPS, INSPECTION - 3 MONTHLY - OSE

Policy 2356 - LP Site BUSHFIRE MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW - 12 Months - Eng

Policy 2357 - LP Site -TRANSFORMER YARD VEGETATION INSPECTION AND CLEARANCE - 6 MONTHS - OSE

Annually

- Visual and mechanical inspection of the HV apparatus is carried out annually. This includes thermal imaging of all HV lines, connection point, oil samples of Transformers for analysis and ultra sonic inspection of transformers.

3 Yearly HV Maintenance program

Mechanical maintenance on HV network as set out below.

Note: Processes for ensuring all maintenance within the site (which include conductor inspections, monitoring, clearance) are triggered through maintenance management system (called MEX). When work is due/required, a work request is scheduled by the Hazeldenes Maintenance Planner.

Conductor Inspections

Conductor inspections are to be completed, visually every year with thermal imaging and mechanical inspection every 3 years. This is conducted pole by pole and to include the following:

- Poles.
- Pole hardware.
- Insulators.
- Conductor hardware.
- Conductors
- 3 yearly Pole maintenance includes
 - Inspection
 - Clean and tighten all hardware
 - Inspect X-arms
- Annual Thermal Imaging which includes;
 - Overhead visual inspection
 - Thermography
 - HV ultrasonic inspections

The third-party inspector is required to identify defects, report on the condition, and assign a priority regarding any recommended rectification.



Figure 3: Example of pole thermography or ‘thermal imaging’

Pole, Base and Surroundings

Poles are to be inspected via visual inspection, this is included with the annual thermal imaging. The visual inspection is to include:

- Alignment and pole position.
- Evidence of decay, deterioration, or damage.
- The area surrounding the pole for degradation of the support base for the pole.
- Impact on the decay of the pole for;
 - Degradation of the support base for the pole.
 - Impact on the decay of the pole.
- 3 Yearly pole maintenance
 - Inspection

- Clean & Tighten hardware
- Repair or note any defects with relevant risk (as per table 1)

Pole Hardware

Pole hardware relates to all additional structures and or components required to support the insulators. Pole hardware is to be visually inspected annually.

The visual inspection is to include:

- Alignment and position.
- Evidence of decay, deterioration, or damage.
- Thermal imaging
- 3 Yearly pole maintenance
 - Inspection
 - Clean & Tighten hardware
 - Repair or note any defects with relevant risk (as per table 1)

Insulators

Insulators are defined as insulating hardware supporting the line and line hardware from the pole and pole hardware. Insulators are to be visually inspected annually. The visual inspection is to include:

- Alignment and position.
- Evidence of decay, deterioration, or damage.
- Foreign objects and/or contamination
- Thermal imaging
- 3 Yearly pole maintenance Inspection
 - Clean & Tighten hardware
 - Repair or note any defects with relevant risk (as per table 1)

Conductors/ Conductor Hardware

Conductor/conductor hardware relates to the hardware connected to the line at the operating voltage of the line. Conductor hardware is to be visually inspected annually. The visual inspection is to include:

- Alignment and position.
- Evidence of decay, deterioration, or damage.
- Foreign objects and/or contamination.
- Thermal imaging (see figure 3)
- 3 Yearly pole maintenance
 - Inspection
 - Clean & Tighten hardware
 - Repair or note any defects with relevant risk (as per table 1)

The BMP covers two easements on the property: (See figure 4)

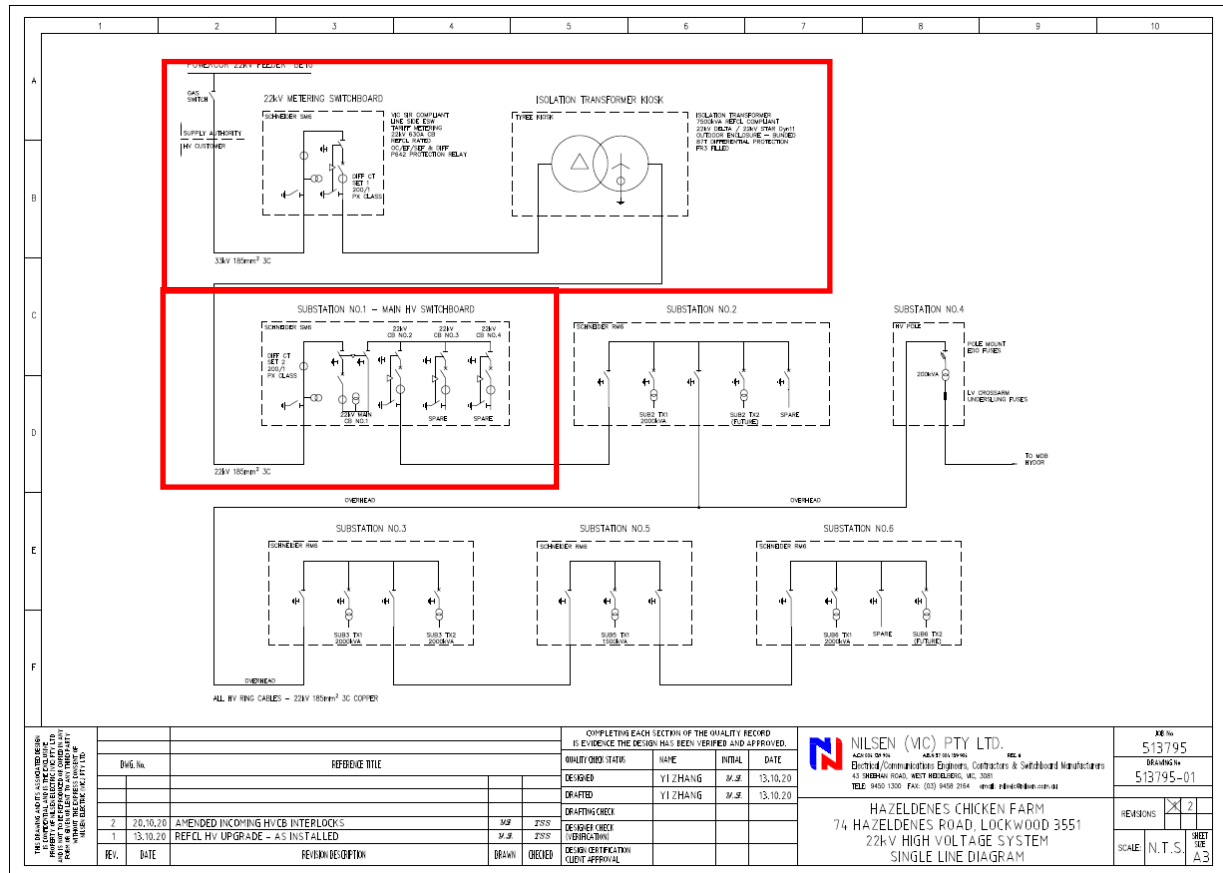


Figure 6: Easement 2 Single Line Diagram (Note: Easement 2 in red boxes)

Easement 1

Has a combination of underground and overhead lines and a Powercor 200 kva pole top transformer. HV assets in easement 1 are all owned by Powercor.

Easement 2

Is the main Powercor overhead supply to Lockwood site and runs across roadways, gravel and undergrowth vegetation. Easement 2 is the main Powercor overhead supply to the HV Lockwood Supply. The Powercor underground supply exits easement 2 and supplies easement 1. Incoming overhead, 2 gas switches and 2 poles are owned by Powercor. Cable from gas switch to main substation 1 are also owned by Powercor. Cable from gas switch to supply easement 1 also Powercor asset. Hazeldenes HV assets include 22KV metering switchboard, isolation transformer kiosk, substation 1 – main HV switchboard.

Powercor are responsible for all vegetation management around both easements.

Inspection Findings and Rectification Priorities

Based on the findings during line inspections, action will be taken as per the following priority table. Note: in instances where timeframes are unable to be met, a risk assessment will be undertaken with alternative timeframes defined.

Priority Code	Description	Timeframe
Critical	Imminent risk of bushfire ignition.	Immediate attention
Severe	A damaged component in the line Low risk to bushfire ignition.	90 Days (or alternate as identified in a risk assessment)
Alert	A damaged component in the line with no risk or threat of ignition.	On next HV Shutdown (Max 3 yearly)

Table 1: Inspection Findings Rectification Priority Table

Asset Cyclic Replacement/Modification Program

Due to the short length of the overhead cables, there is no scheduled asset replacement or modification program. Maintenance will be performed on an as-needed basis, determined by inspection findings or detected failures. No asset replacement program required – based on annual inspection outcomes.

Competency/Training

Competency

Competencies and relevant training are in accordance with the following table:

Responsible Person	Description of work	Qualification Check	Specific Training
Group Engineering Manager	Completion of inspections, audits and Thermographic Surveyors.	Use of Contractor management and induction system (AVETTA) System verifies the competency and licenses required during pre-qualification with prepopulated requirements	Minimum of - UET20621 - Certificate II in ESI - Asset Inspection and Testing or; - 22109VIC – Certificate II in Asset Inspection
Head of electrical	Any line clearance work including Line Workers, Vegetation Workers.	Contractor Management & induction system (AVETTA) System verifies the competency and licenses required during pre-qualification with prepopulated requirements.	Minimum of - Certificate II in ESI - Powerline Vegetation Control - UETDRVC33A Apply pruning techniques to vegetation control near live electrical apparatus - UETDRVC25A Use elevated platform to cut vegetation above ground level near live electrical apparatus - Certificate III in ESI-Power Systems-Distribution overhead or Certificate III in ESI-Distribution Overhead

Table 2: Competencies and Training

All personnel must be approved by Hazeldenes Group Engineering Manager prior to undertaking any electrical asset inspections.

All contractors working for Hazeldenes are subjected to a number of pre-qualification requirements which are based on the role which they perform which includes electrical line works. A third-party provider manages this process which includes vetting qualifications (including any refresher requirements) prior to work beginning. The system uses automated 'system reminders' to individuals and companies when renewals are needed.

Selection of a Competent Person

The individual responsible for conducting the inspection will be nominated by the Group Engineering Manager, based on the fulfilment of competency requirements.

The following personnel will be carrying out work related to this bushfire mitigation plan.

Responsible Person	Description of Work	Qualification Check	Refresher Training
Group Engineering Manager	Arrange for a Qualified Contractor to complete inspections, repairs and or audits	Use of Maintenance Management System	None
Qualified Contractor	Any inspections or repairs on the lines	Contractor Management System verifies the competency and licenses required during pre-qualification	Managed by Building and Facilities Manager (using the Contractor Management System)
Auditing (Contractor)	Pre qualification requirements all reviewed annually through contractor management third party provider.	Contractor Management System verifies the competency and licenses required during pre-qualification	Managed by Building and Facilities Manager (using the Contractor Management System)

Table 3: Personnel Required for Bushfire Mitigation Plan

Training in the Bushfire Mitigation Plan

All personnel with duties related to this plan will be provided a copy of the plan from the Person responsible for the preparation of the plan.

Those personnel are responsible for reading the plan and where any aspects require further explanation to attain understanding are to communicate with the Person responsible for the preparation of the plan.

Other workers and contractors will be trained in the Bushfire Mitigation Plan along with the Emergency Procedure Manual forming part of the training matrix requirements. All personnel undertaking tasks within the area covered by this plan will be operating under a process (i.e. either a standard procedure or Job Safety Analysis/specific task risk assessment) and be deemed competent for the tasks which they are undertaking. Records of competency will be reviewed by or on behalf of Hazeldenes personnel when the contractors have been engaged to undertake the works.

Operational/Contingency Arrangements

Although no specific contingency arrangements are in place for Hazeldenes in the circumstance of hazardous conditions, the site will first and foremost act on any advice provided by either EnergySafe Victoria, Powercor or the Country Fire Authority if it is required in such conditions.

In The Event of a Fire or Bushfire

In the event of a fire or bushfire which has been triggered by at risk lines, Hazeldenes will enact the steps included in the Hazeldenes Lockwood – EPM (Section 9.2.2). A summary of actions include (but not limited to);

- Notify the Chief Warden for the Lockwood Site.
- Ensure all personnel working in the affected areas are evacuated to a safe location
- Isolate the supply of electricity (if fire has been triggered by at risk lines) by HV operator
- Notify the Emergency Services (000)
- Notify Network Controller (Powercor)

Further, Hazeldenes will liaise with CFA in the event of any fire, total fire ban day and during fire danger periods.

Total Fire Ban Days and Fire Danger Periods

On days identified by the fire authority as Total Fire Ban or Fire Danger Periods, no activities will proceed where there is a risk of ignition sources (such as hot work). In the instance that such work is required, a risk assessment will be conducted, internal (HCF) permit completed and permission to do so will be sought from the local CFA. Note: All hot works (i.e. any work that involves grinding, welding, thermal or oxygen cutting or heating, and other related heat-producing or spark-producing operations.) is only completed on the site under permit conditions. Consideration in this instance would be inclusive of environmental hazards such as Total Fire Ban days and Fire Danger Periods along with any at risk vegetation.

Note: Hazeldenes main KV switch is non-auto resetting (manual reset only)

Conductor Isolations

In the event of fire in the area which impacts on the power line between Pole #1 and Pole #8, isolations can be performed if needed, however this is not anticipated to occur. This would be done in alignment to Hazeldenes High Voltage and Operational Procedures.

Plan Availability

A copy of this report will be available at the following locations:

- At the Hazeldenes Site Guardhouse, 74 Hazeldenes Road, Lockwood – Available 24/7 Monday to Friday
- Published on the Hazeldenes Chicken Farm web page – www.hazeldenes.com.au

Fire Investigations

Investigations

Hazeldenes will, as requested, provide assistance to fire control authorities investigating bushfires within the vicinity of the site. This will include:

- Allocating staff or a representative to accompany fire investigators investigating any potential/suspected ignition sources within the property.
- Provision of technical details of items specifically related to fire ignition.
- Providing access to bushfire related policies and procedures.
- Accepting reasonable recommendations from fire authorities concerning improvement opportunities

Hazeldenes is committed to investigating all incidents including incidents involving fire. All investigations are to be carried out in accordance with the Incident Management Procedure (SWSOP020 Incident Management Procedure).

The level of incident investigation is determined based on incident severity. Incidents categorized as low to medium with a risk score of <14 are investigated using the 5 'whys' incident investigation method. Whereas incident severity classified as High - Very High with a risk score of >14 will be investigated in accordance with the ICAM methodology.

Equipment Failures

There have been no equipment failures on-site that had any potential to cause bushfires since the REFCL isolation transformer began commercial operations. The REFCL Transformer was commissioned as of October 2020.

Continuous Improvement

Hazeldenes is committed to continuous improvement. This extends to all aspects of the business including this Bushfire Mitigation Plan. Improvement opportunities are identified through inspections, maintenance, and internal and external audits. Any improvement opportunities that are identified that require an update to the Bushfire Mitigation Plan will require a revised plan to be submitted to EnergySafe Victoria for acceptance.

Audits

Hazeldenes will ensure external audits occur to monitor the implementation of this Bushfire Mitigation Plan. The intent is to provide a mechanism to assist in identifying any potential implementation deficiencies along with creating a process for continuous improvement.

External Audits

Hazeldenes will ensure an independent inspection is completed at least every 3 years by an industry qualified external auditor. The external auditor shall be:

- Trained in line inspection; and
- Has completed an assets inspection training course endorsed by ESV.
- Refresher trained as required

Internal Management Review

Internal management reviews will occur post any external audit. This will include a review of non-conformances as well as improvement opportunities.

Implementation Monitoring

Audit Frequency:

Audits will be conducted on an annual basis.

Scope of Audit:

- Review of CMMS records to confirm scheduled maintenance of high voltage overhead lines has been completed on time and in accordance with standards.
- Field verification of a sample of completed maintenance tasks, including inspection of line clearance zones, asset condition, and any identified fire hazards.
- Evaluation of contractor compliance with vegetation management protocols and response time to corrective maintenance work orders.
- Verification of documentation, including risk assessments, photographic evidence, and closure reports for bushfire-related tasks.

Responsible Party: Audits will be carried out by an **External contractor**, appointed by HCF, with relevant qualifications in bushfire risk management and electrical infrastructure inspection.

Reporting: A formal audit report will be provided for each audit. The report will include findings, identified non-conformances, and recommended corrective actions. All findings will be tracked through the CMMS to ensure timely resolution.

Follow-Up Audits: Where significant non-conformances are identified, a targeted follow-up audit will be scheduled within 30 days of the original audit report to verify corrective actions have been implemented.

Actions identified through inspections and audits will be tracked to close out. Upon completion of an audit, actions identified will be raised and recorded into the business Contractor Maintenance Management System (CMMS) and also sent to the relevant party for closure. These actions will be periodically reviewed and followed up for close out. Once the action is deemed to be closed, details of rectification will be recorded in the system and then closed.

Physical works undertaken will be monitored by Hazeldenes personnel and or authorized and competent representative. An element of this monitoring is to ensure compliance with all site and legislative requirements.

Management Plan Revision

Identification of Improvement Opportunities

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

- Legislative change.
- Policy.
- Periodic internal document review.
- Industry practice.
- Review by the regulator (Energy Safe Victoria ESV).
- Audits.
- Incident investigations.
- Suggestions for improvement from members of the public (where practicable) or an officer of a public authority.

The plan will be annually reviewed and amended as part of the Audit program set out in the section 'Implementation Monitoring'.

Revision Timing

This BMP has been prepared by Hazeldenes. The plan is to be reviewed and resubmitted to ESV a maximum of 5 years post the initial acceptance.

Analysis from Previous Plans

The 2025 Hazeldenes Bushfire Mitigation Plan was the inaugural version. No previous plans have been submitted.

Exemptions from Regulations

Hazeldenes have no exemptions from EnergySafe from any requirements of the Bushfire Mitigation Regulations.

Reference Documents

Details of the Document	Description of Work	Version Number	Published/ Submitted/ Approved
Hazeldenes Lockwood – Emergency Control and Management Plan	Hazeldenes Lockwood – EPM	2	1/10/24
Hazeldenes Safety Management System Risk Management Procedure	SWSOP025 S&W Risk Management Procedure	1	1/12/24
Hazeldenes Safety Management System Risk Management Procedure	SWSOP020 Incident Management Procedure	1	1/10/23

Hazeldenes Chicken Farm High Voltage and Low Voltage Maintenance 2024	Electrical Inspection and Service Report (TP Contractor – Nilsons)	1	29/8/24
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Table 4: References

Appendix

Hazeldenes Chicken Farms Risk Matrix					
Likelihood	Consequence Category				
	1	2	3	4	5
A - Almost Certain	Medium (11)	High (16)	Very High (20)	Very High (23)	Very High (25)
B - Likely	Medium (7)	Medium (12)	High (17)	Very High (21)	Very High (24)
C - Possible	Low (4)	Medium (8)	Medium (13)	High (18)	Very High (22)
D - Unlikely	Low (2)	Low (5)	Medium (9)	High (14)	High (19)
E - Rare	Low (1)	Low (3)	Low (6)	Medium (10)	High (15)
1 - 6 Low		7 – 13 Medium		14 – 19 High	
				20 – 25 Very High	
			14 – 25 Significant Risk		

STEP 1: -Determine the most likely outcome / consequence from the exposure to the hazard.

Consequence Level	Consequence Category	
	Health and Safety	Environmental
1	Minor First Aid / First Aid Treatment / minor medical treatment	- Very low environmental impact confined to small area – e.g. minor uncontrolled spill addressed with spill kit - Minor unauthorised land disturbance - Disposal of waste outside of designated area but does not impact ground or water
2	- Medical treatment (e.g. stitches, setting of broken bones) - Alternate duties of greater than 3 days, less than 2 weeks - Health impact requiring medical treatment or intervention – not permanent - Reversible illness effects of concern	- Low environmental impact confined within operations – short term impact; clean-up within a week - Minor unauthorised land disturbance impacting environmentally sensitive area or priority/rare flora - Disposal of waste outside designated area with minor impacts on ground or water
3	- Lost time injury (not able to do alternate duties) - Alternate duties greater than 2 weeks - Chronic health effects causing illness or partial impact on body function	- Medium, reversible environmental impact requiring medium term clean-up effort (months) e.g. major spill with moderate impacts on ground or water. - Unauthorised land disturbance which may lead to loss of local populations of priority/rare flora - Disposal of waste with moderate impacts on ground or water
4	- Single fatality or permanent disability - Long term chronic health effects or illness to a single worker - Major illness or impact on body function	- Major environmental impact requiring concentrated effort to address (months) - Substantial unauthorised land disturbance resulting in loss of rare or threatened population species - Disposal of waste with major impacts on ground or water requiring major treatment
5	- Multiple fatalities - Long term chronic health effects to multiple workers - Life threatening or permanent disabling illness to multiple workers	Extensive environmental impact requiring long term attention e.g. clean-up, rehabilitation, (months-years)

STEP 2: -Determine what is the likelihood / probability of the event or exposure occurring.

Likelihood Table		
Likelihood Level	Description	Criteria
A	Almost Certain	Very likely. The event or exposure is expected to occur in circumstances as there is a history of regular occurrence at Hazeldenes and/or similar organisations.
B	Likely	There is a strong possibility the event or exposure will occur as there is a history of frequent occurrence at Hazeldenes and/or similar organisations.
C	Possible	The event may occur at some time as there is a history of casual occurrence at Hazeldenes and/or similar organisations.
D	Unlikely	Not expected to occur, but there's a slight possibility the event or exposure may occur at some time.
E	Rare	Highly unlikely, but it may occur in exceptional circumstances. It could happen, but probably will never occur.



This is to certify that

Craig Cousland

has fulfilled the requirements for

22109VIC

Certificate II in Asset Inspection

The qualification certified herein is recognised within
the Australian Qualifications Framework


Institute Board President


CEO of Institute

17th November 2011
Date

28463
Certificate Number
National Provider Number: 0417





This is to certify that

Ricky Whiteley

has fulfilled the requirements for

22109VIC

Certificate II in Asset Inspection


Institute Board President


CEO of Institute

21st March 2012
Date

30409

Certificate Number

National Provider Number: 0417



Australian
Qualifications
Framework 