

Preliminary Hazard Analysis

West Mokoan Solar Farm

892 Yarrawonga Development Pty Ltd (South Energy)
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892 Yarrawonga Development Pty Ltd (South Energy)

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Quality Management

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Executive Summary

Background

892 Yarrawonga Development Pty Ltd (South Energy) is proposing to develop the West Mokoan Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project at Benalla-Yarrawonga Road, Benalla (the project). The objective of the project is to provide support to the existing National Electricity Network by generating energy in the 223.7 MW plant and providing temporary storage until it is needed and stabilising rapid fluctuations events. The project will comprise up to 223.7 MW of installed Photovoltaic (PV) panels along with an approximately 20 MW of battery storage along with associated infrastructure (i.e., substations, transformers, etc.).

South Energy has engaged Riskcon Engineering Pty Ltd (Riskcon) to prepare this PHA for the project in addition to a review of the Fire Protection Quantity (FPQ) requirements as required by the Victorian Dangerous Goods Regulation (VDGR) 2012 (Ref. [1][1]).

Conclusions

A hazard identification table was developed for the West Mokoan Solar Farm PV & BESS project to identify potential hazards that may be present at the site as a result of operations or storage of materials. Based on the identified hazards, scenarios were postulated that may result in an incident with a potential for offsite impacts. Postulated scenarios were discussed qualitatively and any scenarios that would not impact offsite were eliminated from further assessment. Scenarios not eliminated were then carried forward for consequence analysis.

Incidents carried forward for consequence analysis were assessed in detail to estimate the impact distances. Impact distances were developed into scenario contours and overlaid onto the site layout diagram to determine if an offsite impact would occur. The consequence analysis showed that no scenarios would have the potential to impact off site; hence, no incidents were carried forward for detailed frequency analysis.

Notwithstanding this, a frequency assessment was prepared to highlight that the risk at the site boundary would be zero (0) as the consequence contours would not impact over the site boundary. As the risk was calculated to be zero (0) it would be below the acceptable criteria and would be considered a permissible development.

In addition, incidents exceeding 23 kW/m² were reviewed which indicated that the contours from such incidents would not impact over the site boundary and therefore incident propagation would not be expected to occur and would be below the acceptable criteria.

Based on the analysis conducted, it is concluded that the risks at the site boundary are not considered to exceed the acceptable risk criteria; hence, the project would only be classified as potentially hazardous and would be permitted within the current land zoning for the site.

Recommendations

i

Notwithstanding the conclusions drawn, the following recommendations have been made and should be undertaken to cover the battery and inverter equipment as well as common hazards for a mechanical site prior to the commencement of operations at the Solar PV and BESS project to the extent dangerous goods exceed any thresholds:

- A submission to FRV shall be made for written advice in accordance with the VDGR.
- A Dangerous Goods (DG) risk assessment shall be prepared for the site.



- A DG register shall be prepared for the site.
- A site manifest shall be prepared at the site in accordance with Schedule 3 of the Victorian Dangerous Goods Regulation (VDGR).
- The site shall notify the Regulator (i.e. WorkSafe Victoria) of the presence of DGs.
- A site layout shall be prepared for the site in accordance with Schedule 3 of the VDGR.
- A placard schedule shall be prepared for the site to ensure the correct placards are installed.
- An Emergency Response Plan (ERP) shall be prepared for the site and submitted to the Fire & Rescue Victoria (FRV).
- An Emergency Services Information Booklet (ESIB) shall be prepared for the site and submitted to the FRV.
- The transformers shall be designed according to the requirements detailed in AS 1940-2017 "The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids" to minimise the potential for fire or explosion to occur within the transformers.



Table of Contents

Execu	utive Summary	i
1.0	Introduction	1
1.1 1.2 1.3	Background Objectives Scope of Services	1 1 1
2.0	Methodology	2
2.1 2.2	Multi-Level Risk Assessment Risk Assessment Study Approach	2
3.0	Site Description	4
3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.4.1 3.4.2 3.5	Site Location Adjacent Land Uses Sensitive Receptors Detailed Description PCUs Battery Storage Quantities of Dangerous Goods Stored and Handled	4 4 5 6 6 8 9
4.0	Fire Protection Quantity Assessment	10
4.1 4.2 4.3 4.3.1 4.3.2 4.3.3 4.3.4 4.3.5 4.3.6 4.3.7 4.3.8 4.3.9	Notification to the Regulator Emergency Response Plan Emergency Services Information Booklet	10 10 10 11 11 11 12 12 12 12 12
5.0	Hazard Identification	13
5.1 5.2 5.3 5.4 5.5 5.6 5.7 5.8	Introduction Properties of Dangerous Goods Hazard Identification Li-Ion Battery Fault, Thermal Runaway and Fire Electrical Equipment Failure and Fire Transformer Internal Arcing, Oil Spill, Ignition and Bund Fire Refrigerant Gas Release and Asphyxiation Hazard Release of Diesel, Ignition and Pool Fire	13 14 14 15 16 16 17
6.0	Consequence Analysis	19
6.1 6.2 6.3	Incidents Carried Forward for Consequence Analysis Li-Ion Battery Fault, Thermal Runaway and Fire Transformer Internal Arcing, Oil Spill, Ignition and Bund Fire	19 19 20
7.0	Frequency Analysis	22
7.1 7.2 7.3 7.4	Incidents Carried Forward for Frequency Analysis Total Fatality Risk Comparison Against Risk Criteria Incident Propagation	22 22 22 22
8.0	Conclusion and Recommendations	23
8.1	Conclusions	23



8.2	Recommendations 23			
9.0	Refere	nces	25	
Apper	ndix A	Hazard Identification Table	26	
A1.	Hazard	Identification Table	27	
Apper	ndix B	Consequence Analysis	29	
B1. B2. B3. B4. B5.	Spread: Radiant Li-Ion B	ts Assessed in Detailed Consequence Analysis sheet Calculator (SSC) t Heat Physical Impacts sattery Fault, Thermal Runaway and Fire ormer Internal Arcing, Oil Spill, Ignition and Bund Fire	30 30 33 34 34	
Apper	ndix C	Site Layout	36	
List	of Fig	gures		
Figure	2-1: The	e Multi-Level Risk Assessment Approach	2	
Figure	3-1: Site	e Location	4	
Figure	3-2: Su	rrounding Land Uses	5	
Figure	3-3: Se	nsitive Receptors	6	
Figure	3-4: Typ	pical Single Inverter	7	
Figure	3-5: Typ	pical Double Inverter	8	
Figure	3-6: Typ	pical BESS	8	
Figure	5-1: Ca	thode and Anode of a Battery (Source Research Gate)	15	
Figure	5-2: Re	frigeration Flow Diagram	17	
Figure	6-1: Li-I	on Battery Module Fire Radiant Heat Contours	20	
Figure	6-2: Tra	ansformer Bund Fire Radiant Heat Contours	21	
List	of Ta	bles		
Table	2-1: Lev	el of Assessment PHA	2	
Table	3-1: Max	ximum Classes and Quantities of Dangerous Goods Stored	9	
Table	4-1: Fire	Protection Quantity Assessment	10	
Table	5-1: Pro	perties* of the Dangerous Goods and Materials Stored at the Site	14	
Table	6-1: Rac	liant Heat from a Li-Ion Battery Fire	19	
Table	6-2: Rac	liant Heat from a Transformer Bund Fire	20	
Table	7-1: Tota	al Fatality Risk	22	
List	of Ap	pendix Figures		
Appen	dix Figu	re B-1: Heat Radiation on a Target from a Cylindrical Flame	30	
List	of Ap	pendix Tables		
Appen	dix Tabl	e B-1: Heat Radiation and Associated Physical Impacts	33	
Appen	Appendix Table B-2: Heat Radiation Impacts from a Li-Ion Battery Fire			
Appen	Appendix Table B-3: Heat Radiation Impacts from a Transformer Bund Fire			



Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
ADG	Australian Dangerous Goods Code
AS	Australian Standard
CBD	Central Business District
DGs	Dangerous Goods
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
ESIB	Emergency Services Information Booklet
FCAS	Frequency Control Ancillary Services
FPQ	Fire Protection Quantity
FRV	Fire & Rescue Victoria
HIPAP	Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper
O&M	Operations & Maintenance
РНА	Preliminary Hazard Analysis
Pmpy	Per million per year
PV	Photovoltaic
SEP	Surface Emissive Power
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SSC	Spread Sheet Calculator
VDGR	Victorian Dangerous Goods Regulation
VF	View Factor



1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

892 Yarrawonga Development Pty Ltd (South Energy) is proposing to develop the West Mokoan Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project at Benalla-Yarrawonga Road, Benalla (the project). The objective of the project is to provide support to the existing National Electricity Network by generating energy in the 233.74 MW plant and providing temporary storage until it is needed and stabilising rapid fluctuations events. The project will comprise up to 233.74 MW of installed Photovoltaic (PV) panels along with an approximately 20 MW of battery storage along with associated infrastructure (i.e., substations, transformers, etc.).

South Energy has engaged Riskcon Engineering Pty Ltd (Riskcon) to prepare this PHA for the project in addition to a review of the Fire Protection Quantity (FPQ) requirements as required by the Victorian Dangerous Goods Regulation (VDGR) 2012 (Ref. [1]).

1.2 Objectives

The key objectives of this PHA are to:

- Complete the PHA according to the Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper (HIPAP) No.
 6 Hazard Analysis (Ref. [2]);
- Assess the PHA results using the criteria in HIPAP No. 4 Risk Criteria for Land Use Planning (Ref. [3]); and
- Demonstrate compliance of the site with the relevant codes, standards and regulations (i.e. Planning and Environment Regulation, OHS Regulation, 2017 Ref. [4]).
- Conduct a review of the Fire Protection Quantity (FPQ) under the Victorian Dangerous Goods (Storage and Handling) Regulations 2012 (VDGR, Ref. [1]).

1.3 Scope of Services

The scope of work is to complete a PHA study for the West Mokoan Solar PV and BESS project located at Benalla-Yarrawonga Road, Benalla to assist in evaluating possible dangerous goods and demonstrating the project is safe to operate and compliant with the relevant codes, standards, and regulations. The PHA study aims to support planning permit application PA2000978 and the potential requirement for the application to be referred to WorkSafe in accordance with Clause 66.02 of the Benalla Planning Scheme. The scope does not include any other assessments which may be required as a result of this study nor any other South Energy facilities

892 Yarrawonga Development Pty Ltd (South Energy)
Document No. RCE-21046_SE_PHA_Final_15Jun21_Rev(1)



2.0 Methodology

2.1 Multi-Level Risk Assessment

The Multi-Level Risk Assessment approach (Ref. [5]), although published by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, has been used as the basis for the study to determine the level of risk assessment required. The selection of this framework is due to the absence of a suitable Victorian guideline or policy. The approach considered the development in context of its location, the quantity and type (i.e. hazardous nature) of Dangerous Goods stored and used, and the project's technical and safety management control. The Multi-Level Risk Assessment Guidelines are intended to assist industry, consultants and the consent authorities to carry out and evaluate risk assessments at an appropriate level for the project being studied.

There are three levels of risk assessment set out in Multi-Level Risk Assessment which may be appropriate for a PHA, as detailed in **Table 2-1**.

Table 2-1: Level of Assessment PHA

Level	Type of Analysis	Appropriate If:
1	Qualitative	No major off-site consequences and societal risk is negligible
2	Partially Quantitative	Off-site consequences but with low frequency of occurrence
3	Quantitative	Where 1 and 2 are exceeded

The Multi-Level Risk Assessment approach is schematically presented in Figure 2-1.

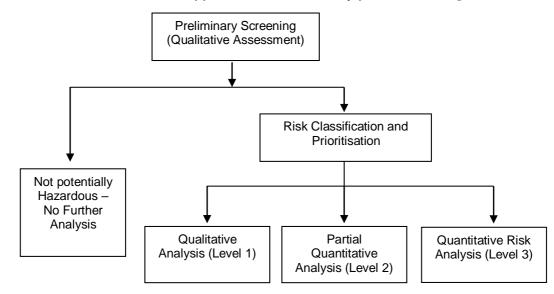


Figure 2-1: The Multi-Level Risk Assessment Approach

Based on the type of DGs to be used and handled at the proposed project, a **Level 2 Assessment** was selected for the Site. This approach provides a qualitative assessment of those DGs of lesser quantities and hazard, and a quantitative approach for the more hazardous materials to be used on-site. This approach is commensurate with the methodologies recommended in "Applying SEPP 33's" Multi Level Risk Assessment approach (DPIE, 2011). The selection of this framework is due to the absence of a suitable Victorian guideline or policy.



2.2 Risk Assessment Study Approach

The methodology used for the PHA is as follows;

Hazard Analysis – A detailed hazard identification was conducted for the site facilities and operations. Where an incident was identified to have a potential off-site impact, it was included in the recorded hazard identification word diagram (**Appendix A**). The hazard identification word diagram lists incident type, causes, consequences and safeguards. This was performed using the word diagram format recommended in HIPAP No. 6 (Ref. [2]).

Each postulated hazardous incident was assessed qualitatively in light of proposed safeguards (technical and management controls). Where a potential offsite impact was identified, the incident was carried into the main report for further analysis. Where the qualitative review in the main report determined that the safeguards were adequate to control the hazard, or that the consequence would obviously have no offsite impact, no further analysis was performed. **Section 3.1** of this report provides details of values used to assist in selecting incidents required to be carried forward for further analysis.

Consequence Analysis – For those incidents qualitatively identified in the hazard analysis to have a potential offsite impact, a detailed consequence analysis was conducted. The analysis modelled the various postulated hazardous incidents and determined impact distances from the incident source. The results were compared to the consequence criteria listed in HIPAP No. 4 (Ref. [3]). The criteria selected for screening incidents is discussed in **Section 3.1**.

Where an incident was identified to result in an offsite impact, it was carried forward for frequency analysis. Where an incident was identified to not have an offsite impact, and a simple solution was evident (i.e. move the proposed equipment further away from the boundary), the solution was recommended, and no further analysis was performed.

Frequency Analysis – In the event a simple solution for managing consequence impacts was not evident, each incident identified to have potential offsite impact was subjected to a frequency analysis. The analysis considered the initiating event and probability of failure of the safeguards (both hardware and software). The results of the frequency analysis were then carried forward to the risk assessment and reduction stage for combination with the consequence analysis results.

Risk Assessment and Reduction – Where incidents were identified to impact offsite and where a consequence and frequency analysis was conducted, the consequence and frequency analysis for each incident were combined to determine the risk and then compared to the risk criteria published in HIPAP No. 4 (Ref. [3]). Where the criteria were exceeded, a review of the major risk contributors was performed, and the risks reassessed incorporating the recommended risk reduction measures. Recommendations were then made regarding risk reduction measures.

Reporting – On completion of the study, a draft report was developed for review and comment by South Energy. A final report was then developed, incorporating the comments received by South Energy for submission to the regulatory authority.



3.0 Site Description

3.1 Site Location

The site is located at Benalla-Yarrawonga Road, Benalla which is approximately 230 km north of the Melbourne Central Business District (CBD). **Figure 3-1** shows the regional location of the site in relation to the Melbourne CBD.

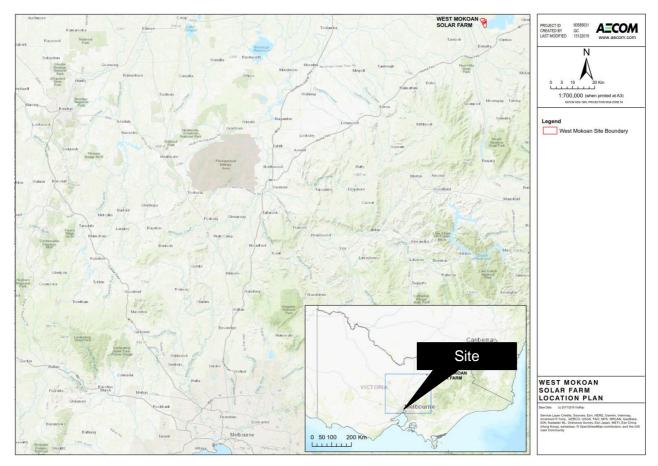


Figure 3-1: Site Location

3.2 Adjacent Land Uses

The land is located in an regional / rural area surrounded by the following land uses, which are adjacent to the site as shown in **Figure 3-2** are:

- North Farmland (rural)
- South Special use / farmland (rural)
- East Public use
- West Defence munitions site (Thales).



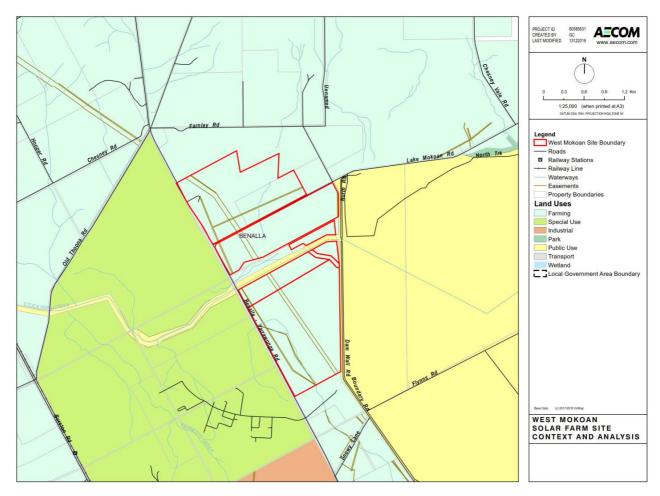


Figure 3-2: Surrounding Land Uses

3.3 Sensitive Receptors

The nearest residential locations are as follows and shown in Figure 3-3:

- 18 Farnley Road, the north of the site, approximately 700 metres from the site boundary.
- 81 Lake Mokoan Road, to the north of the site, approximately 150 metres from the site boundary
- 286 Farnley Road, to the north of the site, approximately 350 metres from the site boundary.
- 623 Benalla-Yarrawonga Road, to the west of the site, approximately 70 metres from the site boundary.
- 524 Benalla-Yarrawonga Road, to the south of the site, approximately 150 metres from the site boundary.





Figure 3-3: Sensitive Receptors

3.4 Detailed Description

The purpose of the project is to provide energy to and support to the National Electricity Network by generating electricity from the 233.74 MW installed capacity of PV panels and the 20 MW BESS to arbitrage electricity demand fluctuations by storing electricity during off peak periods or when there is surplus supply and discharging the stored electricity when demand is highest (i.e. generator trips / shutdowns) or in peak periods. This is achievable due to the high response times achieved through lithium-ion battery storage which can fill peak demands due to the quick dispatchability of battery storage. The project will have capacity to store up to 20 megawatts (MW) of energy and conceptually comprises the following key components:

- Approximately 531,216 solar PV panels on a single-axis tracking system mounted on aluminium
 or steel piles with an installed capacity of up to 192 MW Alternating Current (AC) (234 DC
 Capacity).
- Approximately 57 Power Conversion Units (PCU Inverter buildings with hard standings).
- Direct Current (DC) and AC cabling for electrical reticulation.
- A designated substation and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) facility area that includes a substation, a Battery Storage Facility/Energy Storage System (ESS) of up to 20MW / 20MWh capacity, a control building, substation transformers, office and amenities.
- Internal all-weather access tracks and a laydown area.
- Creation of a new access to Benalla-Yarrawonga Road and Lake Mokoan Road.



- Landscaping and revegetation.
- Removal of 1.891 hectares of native vegetation.
- Security fencing, CCTV and Infra-Red lighting.
- Business identification signage including three signs totalling 3 sqm in display area (1 sqm each) located at site entrances along Benalla-Yarrawonga Road and Lake Mokoan Road.
- Realignment of easements.

3.4.1 PCUs

Power Conversion Units, or PCUs, house transformers and inverters which will be sited between the PV Module Arrays, along the solar farm's internal access tracks. There will be approximately 57 PCUs across the site (12 single inverters and 45 double inverters). The PCUs convert the Direct Current (DC) to Alternating Current (AC), while the transformers increase the voltage from Low Voltage to a Medium or High Voltage, as required for the electricity grid connection. PCUs are a compact, containerised product, with each unit measuring approximately 2.5 metres wide by 2.9 metres high, with a depth of 12.2 metres (equivalent to a 40 foot shipping container for the double inverter units). Due to potential flooding over parts of the subject site, some of the PCUs will be elevated 300 mm above the applicable flood level in accordance with GBCMA requirements (refer to Section 7.2). The exact height of these PCUs will be subject to detailed design. The location of the PCUs are identified in **Appendix C**. **Figure 3-4** and **Figure 3-5** provide examples of typical PCUs.



Figure 3-4: Typical Single Inverter





Figure 3-5: Typical Double Inverter

3.4.2 Battery Storage

The proposed BESS will be located within a secure compound within the Project's utility zone (adjacent to the substation and O&M facility area). The BESS will enable the solar farm to be a flexible energy generation source, providing energy when it is required the most. The BESS converts energy into electrical energy and stores the energy internally. It may also contribute towards network security Frequency Control Ancillary Services (FCAS) in the Region. A typical BESS is shown in **Figure 3-6** and layout for the BESS are contained in the layout shown in **Appendix C**.



Figure 3-6: Typical BESS



3.5 Quantities of Dangerous Goods Stored and Handled

The DGs stored at the site are for various customers and may fluctuate with customer requirements. The classes and quantities to be approved in the project are summarised **Table 3-1**. The locations of the BESS and transformers are indicated on the drawing provided in **Appendix C**.

Table 3-1: Maximum Classes and Quantities of Dangerous Goods Stored

Class	Description	Quantity
2.2	R-134a* / R-410a*	1,000 L*
9	Lithium Batteries	900 T
C1	Transformer oils	212,000 L
C1	Diesel	5,000 L

^{*}Estimated commodity and quantity based upon similar project.



4.0 Fire Protection Quantity Assessment

4.1 Introduction

The Victorian Dangerous Goods (Storage and Handling) Regulations (VDGR, Ref. [1]) covers the storage and handling of materials classified as Dangerous Goods (DGs). This Regulation provides an assessment of the required documentation to be prepared for a site based upon a threshold based approach for each class of DG stored at a site. As shown in **Section 3.5** a range of products will be stored as part of site operations which are classified as DGs; hence, the site is subject to the VDGR. The main purpose of the assessment is to determine whether additional overview is required from a regulatory perspective in terms of WorkSafe Victoria and Fire & Rescue Victoria (FRV) involvement. This is determined by the threshold "Fire Protection Quantity" (FPQ) within the VDGR. Provided in the following section is an assessment of the FPQ and the associated implications for the site approval process.

4.2 Assessment

As noted, the assessment is based upon thresholds provided in the VDGR. The applicable thresholds for the site have been extracted from the Regulation to assess where the site will sit within the regulatory framework for DGs. The results of the assessment are shown in **Table 4-1**.

Table 4-1: Fire Protection Quantity Assessment

Class	Description	Quantity	Placard	Manifest	FPQ	Determination
2.2	R-134a / R-410a	1,000 L	5,000 L	10,000 L	20,000 L	n/a
9	Lithium Batteries	900 T	5 T	10 T	20 T	FPQ
C1	Transformer oils	212,000 L	10,000 L	100,000 L	100,000 L	FPQ
C1	Diesel	5,000 L	10,000 L	100,000 L	100,000 L	n/a

Based upon a review of **Table 4-1** the site would be classified as a FPQ site.

4.3 Implications

The assessment determined that the site would be classified as a FPQ site which requires referral to FRV. Typically, this would require a design assessment of the project to demonstrate compliance with an applicable DG design standard. However, the site is being triggered by the batteries which are classified as a Class 9 DG which technically only exists during transport and not storage. Nonetheless, the VDGR include this as an assessable quantity; hence, a submission to the FRV for written advice is required under the Regulation.

The design standard for Class 9 batteries, AS/NZS 4681:2000 (Ref. [6] is extremely dated and only covers DGs stored in buildings as the risks for external storage are relatively minor. Furthermore, the standard was based upon battery designs from 2000 which did not include the protection incorporated in modern batteries (i.e. temperature and voltage monitoring, cooling, etc.) and were based upon chemistries more likely to result in thermal decomposition (i.e. lithium metal). Therefore, there is no real design guidance available for such battery installation (i.e. West Mokoan BESS) from a DG perspective.

The risks are mitigated via the design of the battery modules themselves and the availability of fire protection at the site. As per the Guidelines for Renewable Energy Installation published by Country Fire Brigade (CFA) in 2019, the project is also expected to have some abilities (e.g. presence of



hydrants, water tanks) to fight a fire at the site should one occur. Discussion with FRV based upon the remoteness of the project site (i.e. if a site is not within the immediate turnout area of a fire station) is recommended prior to construction.

Additional implications include those relating to the documentation which is required to be prepared by the VDGR. Documentation required for a site exceeding manifest levels is as follows:

- Risk assessment
- Register
- Manifest
- Notification to the Regulator
- Emergency Response Plan
- Emergency Services Information Booklet
- Placard schedule
- Site layout

Each of these items have been discussed further in the following subsections in terms of what they entail and whether they will be submitted to a Regulator (i.e. WorkSafe Victoria) for approval prior to occupation of the site for the proposed use.

4.3.1 Risk Assessment

A risk assessment is required by Clause 27 of the VDGR which requires the risks associated with an activity or storage to be controlled. The DG risk assessment is the documentation prepared to demonstrate the risks have been assessed with the required controls incorporated into the site design / operation to an acceptable level as required by the Regulation. This document is not submitted to a Regulator, however it is a requirement of the operator to demonstrate they have fulfilled their obligations under the VDGR. This document is likely to only be reviewed by a Regulator if they attend the site as part of an inspection or due to an incident at the site requiring their involvement.

4.3.2 Register

A register is required under Clause 60 of the VDGR and is a summary of the DGs stored on site along with the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for the products stored. The register also links into the findings of the risk assessment closing the loop from the summary document to the risk assessment. The register is not submitted to a Regulator for review but is required to fulfil the operators' obligations under the VDGR.

4.3.3 Manifest

The manifest is required under Clause 45 of the VDGR. The document is another summary document which is submitted along with the notification to the Regulator. The purpose of the manifest is to provide information about the types and quantities of DG stored to FRV should an incident occur at the site.

While the document is submitted to the Regulator it is typically for information purposes and does not require approval by them.



4.3.4 Notification to the Regulator

The notification is required by Clause 66 of the VDGR and is the driving link between the manifest and the Regulator. It is a form which details the specifics of the DG depots at a site and how they interlink with the manifest. The notification is used to form a database of sites which store DGs exceeding the manifest level. While the notification is not typically reviewed, the operator will receive an acknowledgement from the Regulator which they use to demonstrate they have notified the Regulator as required by the VDGR.

4.3.5 Emergency Response Plan

The Emergency Response Plan (ERP) is required by Clause 55. The purpose is to outline the potential emergencies (i.e. fire, bush fire, natural disaster, etc.) and the associated mitigation and response measures. The document is site specific and is submitted to the FRV for review and approval.

4.3.6 Emergency Services Information Booklet

The Emergency Services Information Booklet (ESIB) is an accompanying document to the ERP and is essentially a summary document of the ERP. This is submitted to the FRV for review and approval.

4.3.7 Placard Schedule

The site is required to be placarded under Clause 47 and the placard schedule is a document which details where the placards are required to achieve compliance with the VDGR. The placard schedule is not submitted to the Regulator but is used to ensure the correct placards have been installed.

4.3.8 Site Layout

The site layout is required by Clause 8 of Schedule 3 of the VDGR and accompanies both the manifest and the notification. The purpose of the layout is to show where the DGs are stored around the site along with other points of interest to FRV including; power isolation points, valve isolation points, drains, etc. to assist them in coordinating a response (i.e. isolate power prior to attacking a fire) or prevent contaminated water from being discharged from the site.

4.3.9 General

The documentation listed above is not required prior to construction but would be required to be in place 2 weeks prior to occupation.



5.0 Hazard Identification

5.1 Introduction

A hazard identification table has been developed and is presented at **Appendix A**. This table has been developed following the recommended approach in Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No .6, Hazard Analysis Guidelines (Ref. [2]). The Hazard Identification Table provides a summary of the potential hazards, consequences and safeguards at the site. The table has been used to identify the hazards for further assessment in this section of the study. Each hazard is identified in detail and no hazards have been eliminated from assessment by qualitative risk assessment prior to detailed hazard assessment in this section of the study.

In order to determine acceptable impact criteria for incidents that would not be considered for further analysis, due to limited impact offsite, the following approach has been applied:

• <u>Fire Impacts</u> - It is noted in Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper (HIPAP) No. 4 (Ref. [3]) that a criterion is provided for the maximum permissible heat radiation at the site boundary (4.7 kW/m²) above which the risk of injury may occur and therefore the risk must be assessed. Hence, to assist in screening those incidents that do not pose a significant risk, for this study, incidents that result in a heat radiation less that at 4.7 kW/m², at the site boundary, are screened from further assessment.

Those incidents exceeding 4.7 kW/m² at the site boundary are carried forward for further assessment (i.e. frequency and risk). This is a conservative approach, as HIPAP No. 4 (Ref. [3]) indicates that values of heat radiation of 4.7 kW/m² should not exceed 50 chances per million per year at sensitive land uses (e.g. residential). It is noted that the closest residential area is approximately 70 m from the site, hence, by selecting 4.7 kW/m² as the consequence impact criteria (at the adjacent industrial site boundary) the assessment is considered conservative.

- Explosion It is noted in HIPAP No. 4 (Ref. [3]) that a criterion is provided for the maximum permissible explosion over pressure at the site boundary (7 kPa) above which the risk of injury may occur and therefore the risk must be assessed. Hence, to assist in screening those incidents that do not pose a significant risk, for this study, incidents that result in an explosion overpressure less than 7 kPa, at the site boundary, are screened from further assessment. Those incidents exceeding 7 kPa, at the site boundary, are carried forward for further assessment (i.e. frequency and risk). Similarly, to the heat radiation impact discussed above, this is conservative as the 7 kPa value listed in HIPAP No. 4 relates to residential areas, which are over approximately 70 m from the site.
- <u>Toxicity</u> Toxic substances have been proposed to be stored at the site; hence, toxicity has been assessed.
- <u>Property Damage and Accident Propagation</u> It is noted in HIPAP No. 4 (Ref. [3]) that a criterion is provided for the maximum permissible heat radiation/explosion overpressure at the site boundary (23 kW/m²/14 kPa) above which the risk of property damage and accident propagation to neighbouring sites must be assessed. Hence, to assist in screening those incidents that do not pose a significant risk to incident propagation, for this study, incidents that result in a heat radiation heat radiation less than 23 kW/m² and explosion over pressure less than 14 kPa, at the site boundary, are screened from further assessment. Those incidents



- exceeding 23 kW/m² at the site boundary are carried forward for further assessment with respect to incident propagation (i.e. frequency and risk).
- <u>Societal Risk</u> HIPAP No. 4 (Ref. [3]) discusses the application of societal risk to populations surrounding the proposed project. It is noted that HIPAP No. 4 indicates that where a development proposal involves a significant intensification of population, in the vicinity of such a project, the change in societal risk needs to be taken into account. In the case of the project, there is currently no significant intensification of population around the proposed site; hence, societal risk has not been considered in this assessment.

5.2 Properties of Dangerous Goods

The type of DGs and quantities stored and used at the site has been described in **Section 3**. **Table 5-1** provides a description of the DGs to be stored and handled at the site, including the Class and the hazardous material properties of the DG Class.

Table 5-1: Properties* of the Dangerous Goods and Materials Stored at the Site

Class	Hazardous Properties	
2.2 – Non- Flammable, Non- Toxic Gas	Non-flammable, non-toxic gases are those which do not pose a flammable or toxicity risk and are therefore relatively benign. However, such gases may pose asphyxiation risks as they can exclude oxygen at the point of release creating an oxygen deficient environment.	
9 – Miscellaneous DGs	Class 9 substances and articles (miscellaneous dangerous substances and articles) are substances and articles which, during transport present a danger not covered by other classes. Releases to the environment may cause damage to sensitive receptors within the environment. It is noted that the Class 9s stored within this project are lithium ion batteries which may undergo thermal runaway (i.e. escalating reaction resulting in heat which ultimately leads to failure of the battery and a fire).	
Combustible Liquids	Combustible liquids are typically long chain hydrocarbons with flash points exceeding 60.5°C. Combustible liquids are difficult to ignite as the temperature of the liquid must be heated to above the flash point such that vapours are generated which can then ignite. This process requires either sustained heating or a high-energy ignition source.	

^{*} The Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail (Ref. [7]

5.3 Hazard Identification

Based on the hazard identification table presented in **Appendix A**, the following hazardous scenarios have been developed:

- Li-ion battery fault, thermal runaway and fire.
- Electrical equipment failure and fire.
- Transformer internal arcing, oil spill, ignition and bund fire.
- Refrigerant gas release and asphyxiation hazard.
- Release of diesel, ignition and pool fire.

Each identified scenario is discussed in further detail in the following sections.



5.4 Li-Ion Battery Fault, Thermal Runaway and Fire

Lithium ion (Li-ion) batteries are composed of a metallic anode and cathode which allows for electrons released from the anode to travel to the cathode where positively charged ions in the solute migrate to the cathode and are reduced. The flow of electrons provides the source of energy which is discharged from a battery and used for work. In a Li-ion battery, the lithium metal composites (a composite of lithium with other metals such as cobalt, manganese, nickel, or any combination of these metals) oxidises (loses an electron) becoming a positively charged ion in solution which migrates through the battery separator to the cathode. At the same time, the lost electron travels through the circuit to the cathode. The lithium ions in solution then recombine with the electron at the cathode forming lithium metal within the cathodic metal composite. This process is shown in **Figure 5-1**.

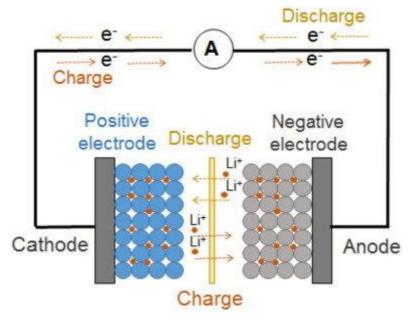


Figure 5-1: Cathode and Anode of a Battery (Source Research Gate)

Initial lithium batteries were designed around lithium metal (i.e. no composite structure) due to the high energy density yielded by the metal. However, when overcharging a battery, lithium ions can begin to plate on the anode in the form of lithium dendrites. Eventually, the dendrites pierce the separator within the battery resulting in a short of the battery which could result in heat, fire, or explosion of the battery. The technology evolved to move away from lithium metal to lithium ions (held within composite materials) which reduced the incidence of lithium dendrites forming resulting in an overall safer battery.

Despite the improvement in battery technology, there are several degradation mechanisms that are still present within the battery which can result in thermal runaway. These include:

- Chemical reduction of the electrolyte at the anode
- Thermal decomposition of the electrolyte
- Chemical reduction of the electrolyte at the cathode
- Thermal decomposition by the cathode and the anode
- Internal short circuit by charge effects



These effects arise primarily as a result of high discharge, overcharging, or water ingress into the battery which results in a host of bi-products being formed within the battery during charge and discharge cycles.

As a result, lithium ion batteries are equipped with several safety features to prevent the batteries from charging or discharging at voltages which result in battery degradation which lead to shorting of the battery and thermal runaway. Safety features generally include:

- Shut-down separator (for overheating)
- Tear-away tab (for internal pressure relief)
- Vent (pressure relief in case of severe outgassing)
- Thermal interrupt (overcurrent/overcharging/environmental exposure)

These features are designed to prevent overcharging or excessive discharge, pressurisation arising from heat generated at the anode or from battery contamination. Protection techniques for Li-ion batteries are standard; hence, the potential for thermal runaway to occur in normal operation is incredibly low with the only exceptions being where batteries are manufactured poorly or due to manufacturing faults, or battery damage (i.e. battery cell is ruptured as this can short circuit the battery resulting in thermal runaway).

Given the ubiquitous nature of lithium ion batteries, thermal runaway is not considered a credible threat when used in a battery storage. In terms of physical damage, the batteries are contained within in modules which are located within a fenced area; therefore, there is a low potential for damage to occur to the batteries which may initiate an incident.

Notwithstanding this, there is the potential for thermal runaway to occur which may consume the whole battery module which may result in offsite impacts or propagation risks to adjacent modules. Therefore, this incident has been carried forward for further analysis.

5.5 Electrical Equipment Failure and Fire

Electrical equipment is located within the switch room which may fail resulting in overheating, arcing, etc. which could initiate a fire. In the event of a fire, it may begin to propagate to adjacent combustible materials (i.e. wiring). It is noted that electrical equipment fires typically start by smouldering before flame ignition occurs resulting in a slow fire development.

The type of equipment used within the project is ubiquitous throughout the world and across industry segments and is therefore not a unique fire scenario. Based upon fire development within switch rooms the fire would be considered to be relatively slow in growth and would be unlikely to result in substantial impacts in terms of offsite impact or incident propagation. Therefore, this incident has not been carried forward for further analysis.

5.6 Transformer Internal Arcing, Oil Spill, Ignition and Bund Fire

Transformers contain oil which is used to cool the units during operation. If arcing occurs within the transformer (e.g. due to a low oil level), the high energy passing through the coolant vaporises the oil into light hydrocarbons (methane, ethane, acetylene, etc.) resulting in rapid pressurisation within the reservoir. To minimise the likelihood of such occurrence, transformers are fitted with a low oil pressure switches and a pressure surge switch (Buckholtz relay). These devices identify potential oil and pressure events within the transformer, isolating power and alarming operators.



Notwithstanding the protection systems, if the pressure rise exceeds the structural integrity of the reservoir, and the installed pressure relief devices, the reservoir can rupture allowing the release of oil into the bund. The rupture also allows oxygen to enter the reservoir. The temperature of the gases is above the auto ignition point, but this does not occur until oxygen is present. When oxygen enters the reservoir, the gases auto ignite which generates sufficient heat to ignite the oil in the bund.

As there is the potential for a fire to occur within the substation transformers, this incident has been carried forward for further analysis.

The transformers haven't been subject to detailed design at this stage; hence, the following recommendation has been made:

The transformers shall be designed according to the requirements detailed in AS 1940-2017 "The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids" to minimise the potential for fire or explosion to occur within the transformers.

5.7 Refrigerant Gas Release and Asphyxiation Hazard

The refrigeration system will be used to providing air conditioning and temperature control in the control room and other areas requiring temperature control. A simplified explanation of how a refrigeration system operates to cool an area is provided below.

A refrigeration system contains four essential components:

- 1. Compressor
- 2. Expansion valve
- 3. Refrigerant
- Heat exchanging pipework

Figure 5-2 has been provided to aid in the description of how the refrigeration system operates to cool a specific area. The refrigeration system cycles the refrigerant gas through the system.

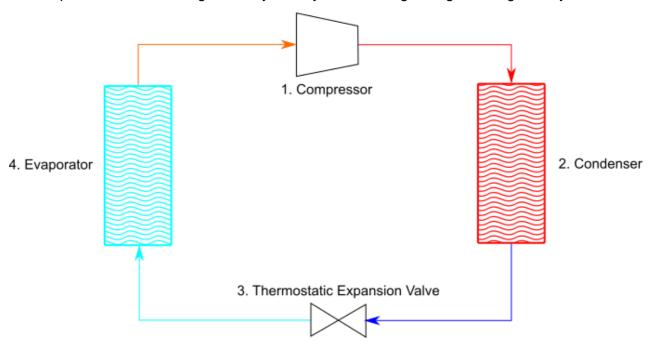


Figure 5-2: Refrigeration Flow Diagram



- 1. Refrigerant gas from the evaporator enters the compressor where it is pressurised (red) which increases the temperature of the gas. The gas travels along the pipework to the condenser.
- 2. The condenser is coiled to provide a large surface area to allow the hot gas to dissipate heat. As the gas releases heat through the coils, the gas condenses into a pressurised liquid (dark blue).
- 3. The pressurised liquid enters the thermostatic expansion valve where it expands across the valve seat, resulting in a sudden drop of pressure of the liquid refrigerant and rapid expansion which cools the liquid (light blue).
- 4. The cooled refrigerant enters the evaporator which is coiled to provide a large surface area to facilitate exchange of heat from the area to be cooled into the refrigerant. As the refrigerant absorbs heat it boils into a gaseous state.
- 5. On completion of the cycle, the refrigerant is drawn into the compressor and the cycle repeats.

Refrigeration systems are commonly used in all air conditioning systems which are not subject to frequent releases and if they do occur the leaks are minor resulting in minimal amounts of escaped gas. Therefore, a rupture release would not be considered to be a credible scenario given the ubiquitous nature of these systems. In the event a small release occurs it will be dissipated quickly via wind movement around the refrigeration unit prevent accumulation. Furthermore, such a release would be insufficient to impact offsite; hence, this incident has not been carried forward for further analysis.

5.8 Release of Diesel, Ignition and Pool Fire

Diesel will be used on site equipment primarily during construction but may be present during operations where equipment needs to be moved / relocated / site vehicles. The diesel will likely be stored in a portable refuelling tank which typically are double skinned (i.e. integrally bunded) tanks complying with AS 1940-2017 (Ref. [8]). The presence of two tanks (i.e. inner and outer tank) results in the potential for external leakage to be incredibly low as this requires the failure of both tanks simultaneously. Therefore, a full release of diesel fuel from the tanks would not be expected to occur.

Nonetheless, if a substantial release did occur, combustible liquids do not emit flammable vapours which results in the ignition probability being incredibly. To ignite the spill, a sustained ignition source with sufficient energy would be required to be exposed to create sufficient heat to vapourise the liquid to initiate combustion. Should this occur, the fire would grow to the dimensions of the spill which would be unlikely to be sufficient to result in an offsite impact.

Due to the low likelihood of release, ignition and consequences impacts from a diesel pool fire an offsite impact is not considered to be a credible scenario; hence, this incident has not been carried forward for further analysis.



6.0 Consequence Analysis

6.1 Incidents Carried Forward for Consequence Analysis

The following incidents were identified to have potential to impact off site:

- Li-ion battery fault, thermal runaway and fire.
- Transformer internal arcing, oil spill, ignition and bund fire.

Each incident has been assessed in the following sections.

6.2 Li-Ion Battery Fault, Thermal Runaway and Fire

There is potential that a Li-lon battery may fault resulting in thermal decomposition and fire which may spread throughout the whole fire unit if not isolated / protected. A detailed analysis has been conducted in **Appendix B** and the radiant heat impact distances estimated for this scenario are shown in **Table 6-1**. The radiant heat contours associated with a fire occurring within a Li-lon battery module are shown in **Figure 6-1**. It is noted the contours are located at units in the worst case location with respect to the site boundary.

Table 6-1: Radiant Heat from a Li-Ion Battery Fire

Heat Radiation (KW/m²)	Distance (m)
35	2.3
23	3.1
12.6	4.6
4.7	8.2

Figure 6-1 is based upon the O&M area which is centrally located within the overall site layout. As can be seen in **Figure 6-1** the radiant heat contours at 4.7 kW/m² do not impact over the O&M boundary and by extension would therefore not extend over the site boundary; hence, the potential for a fatality to occur offsite would not be expected to occur.

The 23 kW/m² contour is associated with incident propagation which also does not impact over the O&M boundary nor the site boundary. Therefore, incident propagation offsite would not be expected to occur from a Li-lon battery module fire. It is noted that the contour may impact the adjacent Li-lon battery units; however, it is noted the analysis is incredibly conservative as it assumes the whole area of a unit is on fire which ignores the gaps between individual units within the module cluster. Furthermore, it doesn't take into account the barrier to direct radiant heat exposure as the units are enclosed and typically have temperature control. Therefore, incident propagation between units would also not be expected to occur.

In the event radiant heat did impact the battery enclosure the protection systems present within the battery units (i.e. temperature and voltage monitoring and isolations) would activate preventing propagation of the incident into adjacent units.

As the contours for fatality and incident propagation do not impact over the site boundaries this incident has not been carried forward for further analysis.



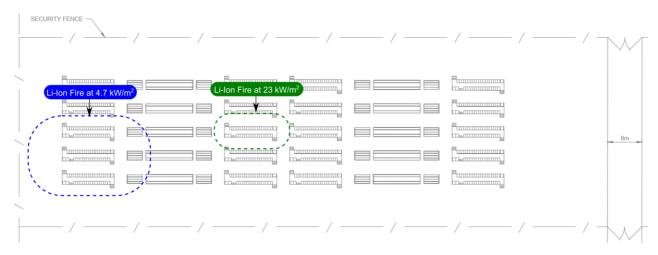


Figure 6-1: Li-Ion Battery Module Fire Radiant Heat Contours

6.3 Transformer Internal Arcing, Oil Spill, Ignition and Bund Fire

There is potential that arcing may occur within the transformers which may lead to generation of gases and pressure above the structural integrity of the oil reservoir which may rupture leaking oil into the bund. As a result of the arcing and rupture, the oil may ignite leading to a bund fire within the dimensions of the bund. A detailed analysis has been conducted in **Appendix B** and the radiant heat impact distances estimated for this scenario are shown in **Table 6-2**. The radiant heat contours associated with a fire occurring within a transformer bund are shown in **Figure 6-2**. It is noted the contours are located at the worst-case location within the substation with respect to the site boundary.

Table 6-2: Radiant Heat from a Transformer Bund Fire

Heat Radiation (KW/m²)	Distance (m)
35	1.6
23	2.2
12.6	3.2
4.7	5.6

Figure 6-2 is based upon the O&M area which is centrally located within the overall site layout. As can be seen in **Figure 6-2** the radiant heat contours at 4.7 kW/m² do not impact over the O&M boundary and by extension would therefore not extend over the site boundary; hence, the potential for a fatality to occur offsite would not be expected to occur.

The 23 kW/m² contour is associated with incident propagation which also does not impact over the O&M boundary nor the site boundary. Therefore, incident propagation offsite would not be expected to occur from transformer bund fire.

It is noted that there are other transformer locations around the site along the PV arrays; however, these are located >20 m from the site boundary and therefore would not result in impacts off site. As the contours for fatality and incident propagation do not impact over the site boundaries this incident has not been carried forward for further analysis.



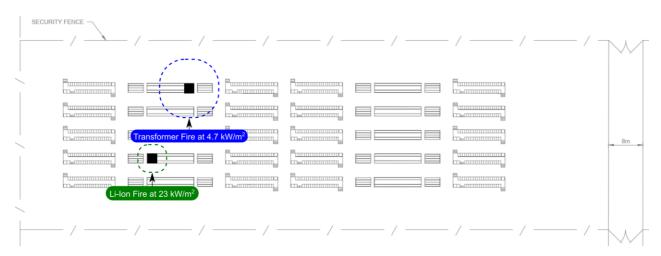


Figure 6-2: Transformer Bund Fire Radiant Heat Contours



7.0 Frequency Analysis

7.1 Incidents Carried Forward for Frequency Analysis

No incidents were identified to have an offsite impact; hence, no frequency analysis has been conducted as the offsite impact would be zero (0).

7.2 Total Fatality Risk

As noted, there is no potential for offsite impact in terms of incident propagation or fatality; hence, the fatality risk would be zero (0); nonetheless, the results have been summarised in **Table 7-1**.

Table 7-1: Total Fatality Risk

Incident	Fatality Risk	
Li-lon Fire	0	
Transformer Fire	0	
Total	0	

7.3 Comparison Against Risk Criteria

The acceptable criteria have been taken from the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment *Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 4 – Risk Criteria for Land Use Safety Planning* (Ref. [3]) and used for guidance as Victoria does not have any published criteria for offsite risk. The acceptable risk criteria published in the guideline relates to injury, fatality and property damage. The values in the guideline present the maximum levels of risk that are permissible at the land use under assessment.

The adjacent land use is classified as an industrial site (under the guidelines). For industrial facilities, the maximum permissible fatality risk is 50 chances per million per year (pmpy). The assessed highest fatality risk is 0 pmpy at the closest site boundary; hence, the highest risk is within the permissible criteria and therefore all other risk points beyond the boundary would be within the acceptable criteria.

Based on the estimated injury risk, conducted in the analysis above, the risks associated with injury and nuisances at the closest residential area are not considered to be exceeded.

7.4 Incident Propagation

The same guidelines provide acceptable risk criteria (Ref. [3]) for incident propagation as 50 chances pmpy. A review of the scenarios that may lead to incident propagation shows that the 23 kW/m² contour was not observed to impact offsite; hence, the potential for incident propagation is zero (0) which is less than the acceptable risk criteria for incident propagation.



8.0 Conclusion and Recommendations

8.1 Conclusions

A hazard identification table was developed for the West Mokoan Solar Farm PV & BESS project to identify potential hazards that may be present at the site as a result of operations or storage of materials. Based on the identified hazards, scenarios were postulated that may result in an incident with a potential for offsite impacts. Postulated scenarios were discussed qualitatively and any scenarios that would not impact offsite were eliminated from further assessment. Scenarios not eliminated were then carried forward for consequence analysis.

Incidents carried forward for consequence analysis were assessed in detail to estimate the impact distances. Impact distances were developed into scenario contours and overlaid onto the site layout diagram to determine if an offsite impact would occur. The consequence analysis showed that no scenarios would have the potential to impact off site; hence, no incidents were carried forward for detailed frequency analysis.

Notwithstanding this, a frequency assessment was prepared to highlight that the risk at the site boundary would be zero (0) as the consequence contours would not impact over the site boundary. As the risk was calculated to be zero (0) it would be below the acceptable criteria and would be considered a permissible development.

In addition, incidents exceeding 23 kW/m² were reviewed which indicated that the contours from such incidents would not impact over the site boundary and therefore incident propagation would not be expected to occur and would be below the acceptable criteria.

Based on the analysis conducted, it is concluded that the risks at the site boundary are not considered to exceed the acceptable risk criteria; hence, the project would only be classified as potentially hazardous and would be permitted within the current land zoning for the site.

8.2 Recommendations

Notwithstanding the conclusions drawn, the following recommendations have been made and should be undertaken to cover the battery and inverter equipment as well as common hazards for a mechanical site prior to the commencement of operations at the Solar PV and BESS project to the extent dangerous goods exceed any thresholds:

- A submission to FRV shall be made for written advice in accordance with the VDGR.
- A Dangerous Goods (DG) risk assessment shall be prepared for the site.
- A DG register shall be prepared for the site.
- A site manifest shall be prepared at the site in accordance with Schedule 3 of the Victorian Dangerous Goods Regulation (VDGR).
- The site shall notify the Regulator (i.e. WorkSafe Victoria) of the presence of DGs.
- A site layout shall be prepared for the site in accordance with Schedule 3 of the VDGR.
- A placard schedule shall be prepared for the site to ensure the correct placards are installed.
- An Emergency Response Plan (ERP) shall be prepared for the site and submitted to the Fire & Rescue Victoria (FRV).



- An Emergency Services Information Booklet (ESIB) shall be prepared for the site and submitted to the FRV.
- The transformers shall be designed according to the requirements detailed in AS 1940-2017 "The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids" to minimise the potential for fire or explosion to occur within the transformers.



9.0 References

- [1] WorkSafe Victoria, "Victoria Dangerous Goods Regulation 2012 under the Victoria Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2017," WorkSafe Victoria, Melbourne, 2012.
- [2] Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, "Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 6 Guidelines for Hazard Analysis," Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Sydney, 2011.
- [3] Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, "Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 4 Risk Criteria for Land Use Safety Planning," Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Sydney, 2011.
- [4] WorkSafe Victoria, "Occupational Health and Safety Regulation," WorkSafe Victoria, Melbourne, 2017.
- [5] Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Multi-Level Risk Assessment, Sydney: Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, 2011.
- [6] Standards Australia, "AS/NZS 4681:2000 The Storage and Handling of Class 9 (Miscellaneous) Dangerous Goods and Articles," Standards Australia, Sydney, 2000.
- [7] National Transport Commission (NTC), "Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail, 7th Edition," 2011.
- [8] Standards Australia, AS 1940-2017 Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids, Sydney: Standards Australia, 2017.
- [9] Standards Australia, "AS/NZS 3000:2007 Wiring Rules," Standards Australia, Sydney, 2007.
- [10] I. Cameron and R. Raman, Process Systems Risk Management, San Diego: Elsevier, 2005.
- [11] F. P. Lees, Loss Prevention in the Process Industries, London: Butterworth-Heinemann, 2005.

Appendix A Hazard Identification Table

Appendix A



A1. Hazard Identification Table

Area/Operation	Hazard Cause	Hazard Consequence	Safeguards
Battery Storage	Failure of lithium ion battery protection systems	Thermal runaway resulting in fire or explosion	Batteries are tested by manufacturer prior to sale / installation
		Incident propagation through	Overcharging and electrical circuit protection
		battery cells	Battery monitoring systems
			Thermal and smoke detection
			Batteries composed of subcomponents (i.e. BBU, cells) reducing risk of substantial component failure
			Batteries are not located in areas where damage could easily occur (i.e. within the fenced property)
			Hydrant protection
			Electrical systems designed per AS/NZS 3000:2007 (Ref. [9])
Switch rooms,	Arcing, overheating,	Ignition of processors and other	Hydrant protection
MMR rooms, communications,	5p 5		Fires tend to smoulder rather than burn
data halls, etc.	Systems	and subsequent me	Isolated location
			Switch room contained within a structure
Substation	Arcing within transformer,	Transformer oil spill into bund and	Bunded
	vaporisation of oil and	bund fire	Fire protection (hydrants, extinguishers)
	rupture of oil reservoir		Isolated location
Refrigerant gases	Failure of flanges, valves,	Non-flammable, non-toxic gases	Relatively low volume of gas used
	compressors, etc. and	pose no fire issue	Robust and commonly used systems which are not prone to
	release of gas	Potential oxygen exclusion and asphyxiation risk	large leaks

Date 15/06/2021



Area/Operation	Hazard Cause	Hazard Consequence	Safeguards
			Open outdoor area provides natural ventilation preventing accumulation of gases
Diesel	Release of combustible liquid and ignition	Pool fire at the point of release	Combustible liquids do not give off flammable vapours at atmospheric conditions
			Low ignition probability
			Relatively small release of diesel
			AS 1940-2017 compliant storages

Date 15/06/2021

Appendix B Consequence Analysis

Appendix 6



B1. Incidents Assessed in Detailed Consequence Analysis

The following incidents are assessed for consequence impacts.

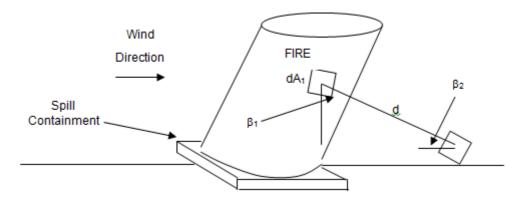
- Li-ion battery fault, thermal runaway and fire.
- Transformer internal arcing, oil spill, ignition and bund fire.

Each incident has been assessed in the sections below.

B2. Spreadsheet Calculator (SSC)

The SSC is designed on the basis of finite elements. The liquid flame area is calculated as if it is a circle to find the radius for input into the SSC model.

The SSC is designed on the basis of finite elements. The liquid flame area is calculated as if it is a circle to find the radius for input into the SSC model. **Appendix Figure B-1** shows a typical pool fire, indicating the target and fire impact details.



Appendix Figure B-1: Heat Radiation on a Target from a Cylindrical Flame

A fire in a bund or at a tank roof will act as a cylinder with the heat from the cylindrical flame radiating to the surrounding area. A number of mathematical models may be used for estimating the heat radiation impacts at various distances from the fire. The point source method is adequate for assessing impacts in the far field; however, a more effective approach is the view factor method, which uses the flame shape to determine the fraction of heat radiated from the flame to a target. The radiated heat is also reduced by the presence of water vapour and the amount of carbon dioxide in air. The formula for estimating the heat radiation impact at a set distance is shown in **Equation B-1** (Ref. [10]).

 $O = EF\tau$ Equation B-1

Where:

- Q = incident heat flux at the receiver (kW/m²)
- E = surface emissive power of the flame (kW/m²)
- F = view factor between the flame and the receiver
- τ = atmospheric transmissivity

The calculation of the view factor (F) in **Equation B-1** depends upon the shape of the flame and the location of the flame to the receiver. F is calculated using an integral over the surface of the flame, S (Ref. [10]). The formula can be shown as:



$$F = \int \int s \frac{\cos \beta_1 \cos \beta_2}{\pi d^2}$$
 Equation B-2

Equation B-2 may be solved using the double integral <u>or</u> using a numerical integration method in spread sheet form. This is explained below.

For the assessment of pool fires, a Spread Sheet Calculator (SCC) has been developed, which is designed on the basis of finite elements. The liquid flame area is calculated as if the fire is a vertical cylinder, for which the flame diameter is estimated based on the fire characteristics (e.g. contained within a bund). Once the flame cylindrical diameter is estimated, it is input into the SSC model. The model then estimates the flame height, based on diameter, and develops a flame geometric shape (cylinder) on which is performed the finite element analysis to estimate the view factor of the flame. **Appendix Figure B-1** shows a typical pool fire, indicating the target and fire impact details.

The SSC integrates the element dA₁ by varying the angle theta θ (the angle from the centre of the circle to the element) from zero to 90° in intervals of 2.5 degrees. Zero degrees represents the straight line joining the centre of the cylinder to the target (x0, x1, x2) while 90° is the point at the extreme left hand side of the fire base. In this way the fire surface is divided up into elements of the same angular displacement. Note the tangent to the circle in plan. This tangent lies at an angle, gamma, with the line joining the target to where the tangent touches the circle (x4). This angle varies from 90° at the closest distance between the liquid flame (circle) and the target (x0) and gets progressively smaller as θ increases. As θ increases, the line x4 subtends an angle phi Φ with x0. By similar triangles we see that the angle gamma γ is equal to 90- θ - Φ . This angle is important because the sine of the angle give us the proportion of the projected area of the plane. When γ is 90°, $\sin(\gamma)$ is 1.0, meaning that the projected area is 100% of the actual area.

Before the value of θ reaches 90° the line x4 becomes tangential to the circle. The fire cannot be seen from the rear and negative values appear in the view factors to reflect this. The SSC filters out all negative contributions.

For the simple case, where the fire is of unit height, the view factor of an element is simply given by the expression in **Equation B-3** (Derived from **Equation B-2**):

$$VF = \Delta A \frac{\sin \gamma}{\pi \times X4 \times X4}$$
 Equation B-3

Where ΔA is the area of an individual element at ground level.

Note: the denominator (π . x4. x4) is a term that describes the inverse square law for radiation assumed to be distributed evenly over the surface of a sphere.

Applying the above approach, we see the value of x4 increase as θ increase, and the value of $\sin(\gamma)$ decreases as θ increase. This means that the contribution of the radiation from the edge of the circular fire drops off quite suddenly compared to a view normal to the fire. Note that the SSC adds up the separate contributions of **Equation B-3** for values of θ between zero until x4 makes a tangent to the circle.

It is now necessary to do two things: (i) to regard the actual fire as occurring on top of a fire wall (store) and (ii) to calculate and sum all of the view factors over the surface of the fire from its base to its top. The overall height of the flame is divided into 10 equal segments. The same geometric technique is used. The value of x4 is used as the base of the triangle and the height of the flame, as the height. The hypotenuse is the distance from target to the face of the flame (called X4'). The



angle of elevation to the element of the fire (alpha α) is the arctangent of the height over the ground distance. From the $\cos(\alpha)$ we get the projected area for radiation. Thus there is a new combined distance and an overall equation becomes in **Equation B-4** ((Derived from **Equation B-3**):

$$VF = \Delta A \frac{\sin \gamma \times \cos \alpha}{\pi \times X4 \times X4}$$
 Equation B-4

The SCC now turns three dimensional. The vertical axis represents the variation in θ from 0 to 90° representing half a projected circle. The horizontal axis represents increasing values of flame height in increments of 10%. The average of the extremes is used (e.g. if the fire were 10 m high then the first point would be the average of 0 and 1 i.e. 0.5 m), the next point would be 1.5 m and so on).

Thus the surface of the flame is divided into 360 equal area increments per half cylinder making 720 increments for the whole cylinder. Some of these go negative as described above and are not counted because they are not visible. Negative values are removed automatically.

The sum is taken of the View Factors in **Equation B-3**. Actually the sum is taken without the ΔA term. This sum is then multiplied by ΔA which is constant. The value is then multiplied by 2 to give both sides of the cylinder. This is now the integral of the incremental view factors. It is dimensionless so when we multiply by the emissivity at the "face" of the flame (or surface emissive power, SEP), which occurs at the same diameter as the fire base (pool), we get the radiation flux at the target.

The SEP is calculated using the work by Mudan & Croche (Ref. [11] & Ref. [10]) which uses a weighted value based on the luminous and non-luminous parts of the flame. The weighting is based on the diameter and uses the flame optical thickness ratio where the flame has a propensity to extinguish the radiation within the flame itself. The formula is shown in **Equation B-5**.

$$SEP = E_{max}e^{-sD} + E_s(1 - e^{-sD})$$
 Equation B-5

Where:

 $E_{max} = 140$

S = 0.12

 $E_{\rm s} = 20$

D = pool diameter

The only input that is required is the diameter of the pool fire and then estimation for the SEP is produced for input into the SSC.

The flame height is estimated using the Thomas Correlation (Ref. [10]) which is shown in **Equation B-6**.

$$H = 42d_p \left[\frac{\dot{m}}{\rho_a \sqrt{g d_n}} \right]^{0.61}$$
 Equation B-6

Where:

 d_p = pool diameter (m)

 ρ_a = density of air (1.2 kg/m³ at 20°C)



$$\dot{m}$$
 = burning rate (kg/m².s)
g = 9.81 m/s²

The transmissivity is estimated using **Equation B-7** (Ref. [10]).

$$\tau = 1.006 - 0.01171(\log_{10} X(H_2O) - 0.02368(\log_{10} X(H_2O))^2 - 0.03188(\log_{10} X(CO_2) + 0.001164(\log_{10} X(CO_2))^2$$
 Equation B-7

Where:

- τ = Transmissivity (%)
- $X(H_2O) = \frac{R_H \times L \times S_{mm} \times 2.88651 \times 10^2}{T}$
- $X(CO_2) = \frac{L \times 273}{T}$

and

- R_H = Relative humidity (% expressed as a decimal)
- L = Distance to target (m)
- S_{mm} = saturated water vapour pressure in mm of mercury at temperature (at 25°C S_{mm} = 23.756)
- T = Atmospheric temperature (K)

B3. Radiant Heat Physical Impacts

Appendix Table B-1 provides noteworthy heat radiation values and the corresponding physical effects of an observer exposed to these values (Ref. [3]).

Appendix Table B-1: Heat Radiation and Associated Physical Impacts

Heat Radiation (kW/m²)	Impact
35	Cellulosic material will pilot ignite within one minute's exposure
	Significant chance of a fatality for people exposed instantaneously
23	Likely fatality for extended exposure and chance of a fatality for instantaneous exposure
	Spontaneous ignition of wood after long exposure
	Unprotected steel will reach thermal stress temperatures which can cause failure
	Pressure vessel needs to be relieved or failure would occur
12.6	Significant chance of a fatality for extended exposure. High chance of injury
	Causes the temperature of wood to rise to a point where it can be ignited by a naked flame after long exposure
	Thin steel with insulation on the side away from the fire may reach a thermal stress level high enough to cause structural failure
4.7	Will cause pain in 15-20 seconds and injury after 30 seconds exposure (at least second degree burns will occur)
2.1	Minimum to cause pain after 1 minute



B4. Li-Ion Battery Fault, Thermal Runaway and Fire

The battery units are spaced out throughout the site to provide energy storage when drawing energy from the grid and discharging back to the grid. For conservatism, a Li-Ion battery fire has been based upon a fire originating within a battery pack and propagating to the closest batteries resulting in a full container fire. The area covered by a full battery module is approximately 29 m². This area has been used as an input for the fire dimensions and converted to a circular diameter to input into the SEP and SSC models.

$$D = \sqrt{\frac{4 \times 29}{\pi}} = 3.4 \, m$$

The following data was input into the SSC:

- Fire diameter 3.4 m
- Burning rate 0.022 kg/m².s (selected to model combustible materials)

The above information was put into the spreadsheet calculator which calculated the following outputs:

- SEP 99.5 kW/m²
- Flame height 4.3 m

The results of the analysis are shown in **Appendix Table B-2**.

Appendix Table B-2: Heat Radiation Impacts from a Li-Ion Battery Fire

Heat Radiation (KW/m²)	Distance (m)
35	2.3
23	3.1
12.6	4.6
4.7	8.2

B5. Transformer Internal Arcing, Oil Spill, Ignition and Bund Fire

Transformers contain oil to provide cooling and insulation. If arcing occurs within the transformer, the oil will rapidly heat generating gases above their auto ignition point. The pressure of the gases may rupture the reservoir allowing oxygen to enter resulting in the gases auto igniting. The oil is released from the reservoir and is ignited by the burning gases.

It has been assumed that the transformer has bund dimensions of approximately 12.5 m x 9 m which is based upon similar projects; hence, if a spill from the transformer was to occur it would fill the base of the bund resulting in a pool fire with the dimensions of the bund. These dimensions have been used to calculate a circular diameter to input into the SEP and SSC models.

$$A = L \times W = 3 \times 3 = 9 m^2$$

$$D = \sqrt{\frac{4 \times 9}{\pi}} = 1.9 m$$

The following data was input into the SSC;

Fire diameter – 1.9 m



Burning rate – 0.022 kg/m².s (combustible liquid, Ref. [11])

The above information was put into the spreadsheet calculator which calculated the following outputs:

- SEP 115 kW/m²
- Flame height 2.9 m

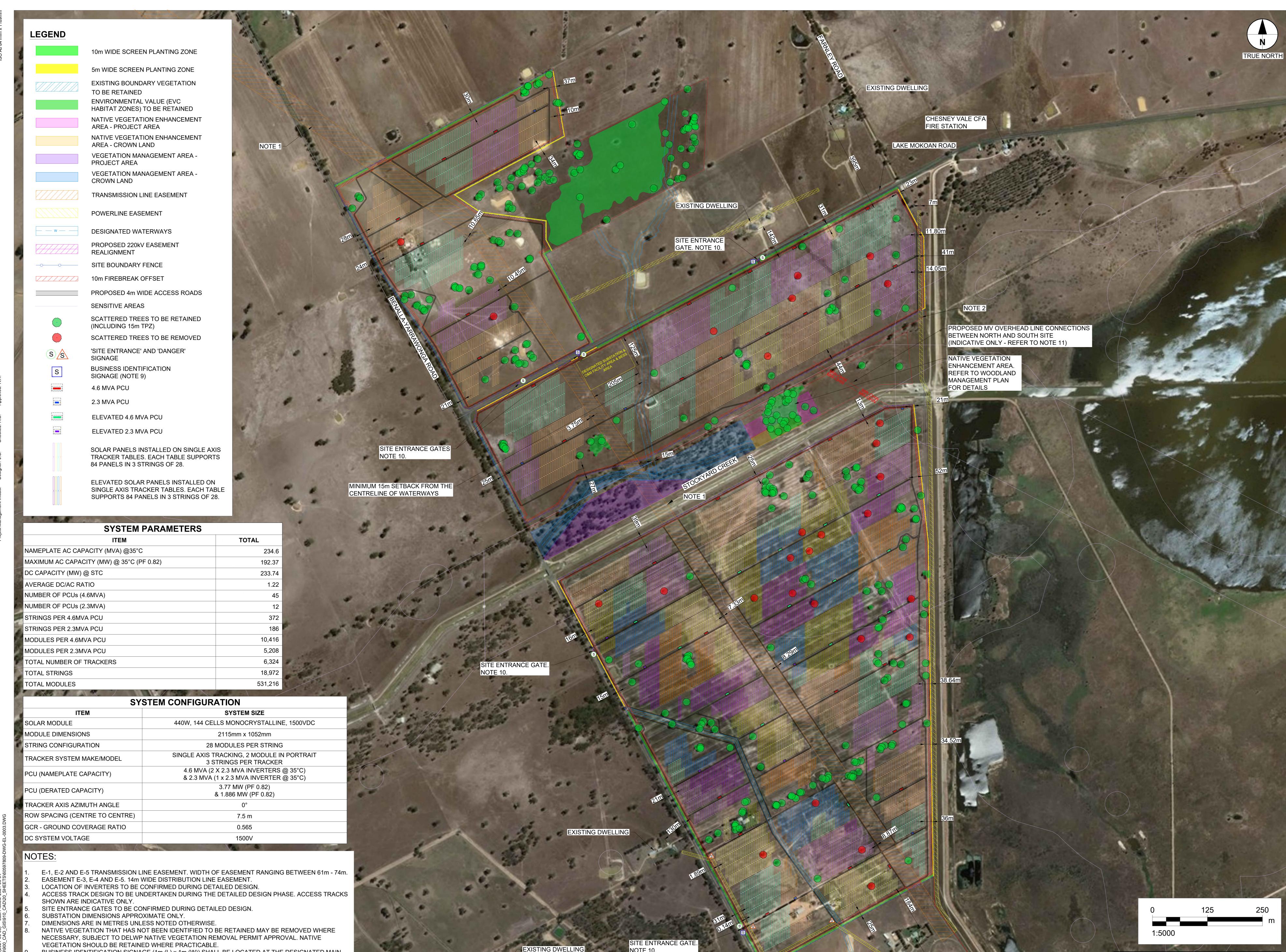
The results of the analysis are shown in **Appendix Table B-3**.

Appendix Table B-3: Heat Radiation Impacts from a Transformer Bund Fire

Heat Radiation (KW/m²)	Distance (m)
35	1.6
23	2.2
12.6	3.2
4.7	5.6

Appendix C
Site Layout

Appendix C



NOTE 10.

SOLAR PV PLANT

SCALE 1:5000

EXISTING DWELLING

AECOM

WEST MOKOAN SOLAR FARM CONCEPT DESIGN

892 YARRAWONGA DEVELOPMENT Pty Ltd Level 19, 303 Collins Street Melbourne, VIC 3000



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I/R DATE DESCRIPTION

PROJECT NUMBER

60597809

SHEET TITLE

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WEST MOKOAN

SOLAR FARM CONCEPT LAYOUT

SHEET NUMBER

60597809-DWG-EL-0003

GD4010 - TYPICAL ACCESS TO RURAL PROPERTIES.

ENTRANCE OF EACH MAIN PROPERTY.

PROPOSED OVERHEAD LINE ROUTES AND LOCATIONS ARE INDICATIVE ONLY AND SHALL BE CONFIRMED DURING DETAILED DESIGN. THE OVERHEAD LINE INFRASTRUCTURE SHALL BE DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED TO ENSURE NO IMPACT ON NATIVE VEGETATION.

BUSINESS IDENTIFICATION SIGNAGE (1m (L) x 1m (W)) SHALL BE LOCATED AT THE DESIGNATED MAIN

ENTRY/ACCESS POINTS TO BE DESIGNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH VICROADS STANDARD DRAWING