

# FACT SHEET

## Fire management



Forest Wind will be located in Australia's largest exotic pine plantation, between Maryborough and Gympie.

### Fire risk management

Forest Wind recognises the importance of fire risk management and is committed to deliver its responsibilities under the *Queensland Fire and Emergency Service Act (1990)*.

### Wind farms and fire risk

AFAC, The Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council believes that *"wind farms are not expected to adversely affect fire behaviour, nor create major ignitions risks"*.

Fires in wind turbines are rare. International data indicates that the risk of a fire in a turbine in any year was historically 0.017%<sup>1</sup>.

No one wants a fire and therefore the latest design and technology developments incorporate enhanced prevention and managements systems:

- passive, which include design features such as transformer isolation, arching avoidance design and fire proof materials; and
- Active, such as smoke, heat and fire detection systems and extinguisher systems
- More sophisticated maintenance procedures and checks and balances.

Ongoing development of mitigations is expected to result in the low rate of fire incidence reducing further over time.

### The Forest Wind experience

Forest Wind turbines and support infrastructure will have in-built active and passive fire protection systems to minimise the likelihood of a fire occurring.

Controls may include:

- o smoke alarms, heat detectors, heat protective coatings and fire proof materials
- o system remote control shutdown and isolation following exceedances
- o real time monitoring of detectors and alarms at the Forest Wind control centre
- o in-built fire suppression systems
- o underground cabling throughout the site, other than the overhead transmission line corridor

Operators of the wind farm will be trained in both forest and wind asset fire response.

Operators will work with the plantation to reduce fuel loads immediately around infrastructure and manage fires that occur within the wind farm.

### Forest Wind fire planning

Forest Wind has undertaken a detailed Fire Hazard Impact Assessment identifying potential hazards within the wind farm and the forest operation. This assessment informs the control strategy in our Fire Management Plan.

For information about the project and opportunities, to keep in touch, or to have your say:

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<sup>1</sup> GCube Insurance 2015

