



AM PLA Power Line Bushfire Mitigation Plan Plan

June 2025

Table of Contents

1. Plan Authorisation	4
2. Relevant Legislation	5
3. Plan Availability.....	5
4. Introduction	6
5. Prescribed Particulars	7
5.1 Contact Details.....	7
5.2 Policy and Objectives	8
5.2.1 Local Plans and Procedures	9
5.3 Asset Description.....	9
5.3.1 Winneke Treatment Plant.....	10
5.3.2 Bells Portal.....	10
5.4 Management Strategy	10
5.4.1 Vegetation Management	11
5.4.2 Condition Monitoring and Renewal Program.....	11
5.4.3 REFCL Program.....	13
5.5 Procedures	19
5.5.1 During a Fire Event	22
5.5.2 Total or Partial Fire Ban Days - Ausnet Actions in Bells Portal area	22
5.5.3 Total or Partial Fire Ban Days- Actions by Melbourne Water.....	23
5.5.4 Fire Danger Period	24
5.6 Performance Monitoring and Auditing	24
5.6.1 Monitoring and Auditing.....	25
5.6.2 Plan Implementation and Effectiveness.....	26
5.6.3 Plan Improvements.....	26
5.6.4 Monitor and Audit Effectiveness of Inspections	27
5.7 Energy Safe Victoria Exemptions	28
6. References.....	29
7. Appendices	29
8. Document History	30
Appendix A: Locality map of the Sugarloaf/Winneke area.....	31

Appendix B: At Risk Power Line Location Maps 32

Appendix C: Winneke Treatment & Plant Line 38

Appendix D: Yering Gorge (Pumping Station) Line 38

Appendix E: Bells Portal Line 38

Appendix F: High Voltage Isolation Control Points 39

Appendix G: Results of Last Inspection 41

Appendix H: Condition Based Monitoring Management Approach 42

Appendix I: Vegetation Inspection Report..... 43

1. Plan Authorisation

This Bushfire Mitigation Plan outlines how Melbourne Water manages our at-risk electrical assets to mitigate bushfire risk and ensure our assets are safe and reliable.

As the owner and operator of at-risk electrical assets Melbourne Water has prepared this plan in accordance with Section 83BA of the Electrical Safety Act 1998 and the Electrical Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Regulations 2023, for acceptance by Energy Safe Victoria.

This plan is subject to annual review (by Melbourne Water) and submission to Energy Safe Victoria if any changes are made or else 5 yearly, to ensure it describes current management regimes and processes, and to allow for continuous improvement.

Approved by:



David Browne

Senior Manager Asset Protection & Technical Services, Service Programs

2. Relevant Legislation

- Electrical Safety Act 1998
- Electricity Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Regulations 2023
- Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020 (incorporating the Code of Practice for Electric Line Clearance 2020)

The Act requires the mitigation plan to include assets that are both:

1. Located in a Hazardous Bushfire Risk Area (HBRA); and
2. Classified as an At-Risk Electric Line

Hazardous Bushfire Risk Area is defined in the Electricity Safety Act 1998 as an area:

1. To which a fire authority has assigned a fire hazard rating of "high" under section 80, whether or not the area is an urban area; or
2. That is not an urban area (other than an area a fire control authority has assigned a fire hazard rating of "low" under section 80)

83A of the Act defines At-Risk Electric Line as an electric line (other than a private electric line) that is:

- a. Above the surface of land; and
- b. In a hazardous bushfire risk area.

Part 1 of the Act section 3 defines a private electric line as any low voltage electric line used to take electricity from the point of supply, whether or not that line is vested in an electricity supplier. Therefore, this plan's main purpose is the management of **at risk** HV power line assets that are located in HBRA.

The plan also details assets other than **at risk** HV power lines that are:

- Melbourne Water 22kV equipment connected to power lines included in Energy Safe Victoria's Rapid Earth Fault Current Limiter ([REFCL](#)) program area
- Other overhead lines owned by Melbourne Water that are HV in a LBRA or LV (to provide Melbourne Water with an overall plan)

3. Plan Availability

This plan is available for public inspection, in accordance with section 83BA (a) and (b), following acceptance of the plan by Energy Safe Victoria. It is available on Melbourne Water's [website](#) and for viewing during normal business hours (8am to 5pm) on request at Melbourne Water's head office, 990 La Trobe St, Docklands, Victoria.

Most of the hyperlinks within this document are intended for internal use to provide ease of access. Such links are not readily accessible from outside Melbourne Water's document management system. Where required UNCONTROLLED copies may be issued to external parties upon request.

4. Introduction

Melbourne Water is a water authority solely owned by the Victorian Government. We manage Melbourne's water supply catchments, remove and treat most of Melbourne's sewage. We also manage rivers creeks and major drainage systems throughout the Port Phillip and Westernport regions.

Melbourne Water is a significant landowner in the Port Phillip and Western Port regions managing 33,582 hectares of land and responsible for managing water supply, sewerage, and drainage assets, as well as natural assets such as rivers and creeks. These assets service 4.2 million people in an area spanning 12,800 square kilometres.

Melbourne Water owns and operates electrical assets to ensure the continuation of our core services. These assets include low and high voltage lines and over 500 poles. Of these assets the following are in a Hazardous Bushfire Risk Area:

- Sugarloaf Reservoir Area (including associated Winneke plant) (HV)
- Cardinia Duffy's Lookout Picnic Area (LV)
- Silvan Reservoir (LV)
- Tarago treatment plant (LV)
- Bells Portal (HV)
- Devilbend Reservoir (LV)

The only Melbourne Water sites that have HV assets located in HBRA and therefore meet the definition of 'at risk lines' are:

- Sugarloaf Reservoir Area; and
- Bells Portal (Thompson Reservoir).

These lines are supplied by electricity distribution company AusNet Services.

This plan has been specifically designed for the 2.6 km of 11 kV lines (at-risk electric lines) in the Sugarloaf-Winneke area and 64m of 22kV line (at-risk electric lines) in the Bells Portal – Thompson dam area.

In addition to the regulatory requirements, this plan also provides some mitigation details for all Melbourne Water owned overhead lines. The intent of this inclusion is to provide internal clarity on overall risk management.

This Bushfire Mitigation Plan outlines how Melbourne Water manages our **at-risk** electrical assets to mitigate bushfire risk and ensure our assets are safe and reliable.

The following responses address the requirements of:

- the *Electricity Safety Act 1998* – Section 83BA – Submission of bushfire mitigation plans for acceptance; and
- the *Electrical Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Regulations 2023* – Section 6 – Prescribed particulars for bushfire mitigation plans – specified operators.

5. Prescribed Particulars

5.1 Contact Details

Section 6 (a)

Name, address, email address and telephone number of the specified operator.

Melbourne Water Corporation
990 La Trobe St
Docklands Victoria 3008
ABN 81 945 386 953
Email: enquiry@melbournewater.com.au
Phone 131 722

Section 6 (b)

Position, address, email address and telephone number of the person who was responsible for the preparation of the plan.

David Browne
Senior Manager, Asset Protection & Technical Services, Service Programs, Melbourne Water
990 La Trobe St, Docklands, Victoria 3008
Email: David.Browne@melbournewater.com.au
Phone: 0422 274 242

Section 6 (c)

Position, address, email address and telephone number of the persons who are responsible for carrying out the plan.

Nirooshan Sachchithananthan
GM Works Delivery, Melbourne Water
990 La Trobe St, Docklands, Victoria 3008
Email: Nirooshan.Sachchithananthan@melbournewater.com.au
Phone: 0418 179 041

Simon Anderson Senior Manager business Performance and Contracts, Melbourne Water
990 La Trobe St, Docklands, Victoria 3008
Email: Simon.Anderson@melbournewater.com.au
Phone: 0483 229 856

Section 6 (d)

The email address (if any) and telephone number of the specified operator's control room so that persons in the room can be contacted in an emergency that requires action by the specified operator to mitigate the danger of bushfire.

Any site Water Control Centre (24hrs / 7days a week)

Phone: (03) 9325 2666

Request: Duty Operator

Melbourne Water does not have a specific control room emergency response email address.

5.2 Policy and Objectives

Section 6 (e)

Bushfire mitigation policy of the specified operator to minimise the risk of fire ignition from its at-risk electric lines.

Melbourne Water ensures assets are operated and maintained to:

- deliver safe, effective, and reliable services
- protect and improve the environment
- meet agreed financial performance targets for the government and the wider community; and
- minimise the risk of fire ignition by Melbourne Water owned and operated high voltage power lines.

Melbourne Water's [EMRG POL Emergency Management](#) articulates the organisation's commitment to emergency management, including fire. It outlines Melbourne Water's emergency management objectives to:

- Prevent or reduce the risks of incidents occurring
- Maintain welfare and confidence of our people, customers, stakeholders, and the community
- Minimise the impacts of a disruption
- Ensure that critical stakeholders are kept informed; and
- Return to normal operations as quickly as possible.

In accordance with the Integrated Fire Management Planning (IFMP) process, Melbourne Water has developed bushfire risk management plans to minimise bushfire risks. This plan specifically minimises the bushfire risks from **at-risk** assets. The **at-risk** assets have been identified and programs initiated to mitigate that risk. These assets **at-risk**, including the 2.6 km of 11kV, have been logged in the Victorian Fire Risk Register (VFRR). The VFRR ID numbers are:

ID 64231 Yerring Gorge Water Pumping Station

ID 64232 Yerring Gorge Electrical Substation

ID 64234 Winneke TP to Yerring Gorge substation Elec Transmission line

ID 6453253 Winneke WTP

ID 6298 Bells Portal Water pumping Station

Melbourne Water's [AM PLA Sugarloaf Bushfire Risk Management](#) identifies actions to mitigate bushfire risk within the catchment area and therefore to our **at-risk** assets. Whilst not specific to risks from **at-risk** assets it minimises the effect of a bushfire. In determining risk and risk management the international standard for risk management, ISO 31000:2018 is used.

Melbourne Water has also developed [AM PLA MW Electrical Line Clearance Management](#) which outline our responsibilities for clearing vegetation to manage the fire risk from power lines on our estate and ensure our compliance with relevant legislation.

5.2.1 Local Plans and Procedures

For all sites, Melbourne Water's [Water Supply Bushfire Preparation](#) Plan provides governance in the management of fire risk from power lines

At the Winneke Treatment Plant, the [EMRG PLA Winneke ERP and Manifest](#) provides additional governance.

Section 6 (f)

Objectives of the plan to achieve the mitigation of fire danger arising from the specified operator's at-risk electric lines

The objectives of this plan, to mitigate risks to the community, the environment, and Melbourne Water assets through fire ignitions from power lines, are to:

- Ensure vegetation is managed along high voltage power lines to minimise risk of ignition and allow access for maintenance and emergency works.
- Ensure electrical infrastructure is maintained to a high standard to minimise the risk of ignition or failure; and
- Ensure all works along power lines are completed by suitably qualified people.

5.3 Asset Description

Section 6 (g)

Description, map, or plan of the land to which the bushfire mitigation plan applies, identifying the location of the specified operator's at-risk electric lines.

The **at-risk power lines** owned and operated by Melbourne Water are located predominantly around the Sugarloaf area in Christmas Hills, about 35 km north-east of Melbourne (see Appendix A: Locality map of the Sugarloaf/Winneke area) and at Bells Portal (Thompsons Reservoir) about 150km east of Melbourne.

The location and details of power lines and poles are shown in Appendix B: At Risk Power Line Location Maps

Locations of high voltage electrical isolation control points are shown in Appendix F: High Voltage Isolation Control Points.

The results of the last Assessment are shown in Appendix G: Results of Last Inspection. The Vegetation Inspection Report is shown in Appendix I: Vegetation Inspection Report.

Electrical assets located within this area detailed in the following sub sections.

5.3.1 Winneke Treatment Plant

- *Melbourne Water Main Substation 66kV*
Substation maintained by Melbourne Water (66 kV incoming line is owned and operated by AusNet Services)
- *Yering Gorge (Pumping Station) Feeder No.1 and No. 2 consists of 500m of 11kV overhead aerial bundled (insulated cable) cable from the substation to the Yering Gorge Pumping Station*
- *WTP (Winneke Treatment Plant) Feeder No.1 and No.2 consists of 2.1 km of 11kV aerial bundled cable (insulated cable) to Winneke Treatment Plant.*

The Sugarloaf area covers the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri and Taungurong people from the Kulin Nation. Construction of Sugarloaf Reservoir and Winneke Treatment Plant began during the late 1970s and was completed in 1981. The Sugarloaf Reservoir catchment is surrounded by private property. Parks Victoria also has adjoining tenure around Kinglake-Warrandyte Conservation Reserve and National Park and One Tree Hill Reserve to the north. Water from Sugarloaf Reservoir is treated at the Winneke Water Treatment Plant to World Health Organisation guidelines before entering Melbourne's water supply system. The power lines at Sugarloaf reservoir are situated within the Box Ironbark Forest EVC in the Highlands – Southern Fall Bioregion.

Power line construction details are provided in Appendix C.

5.3.2 Bells Portal

The Bells Portal site is located within Baw Baw National Park next to Thompson Reservoir.

Power line construction details are provided in Appendix E

5.4 Management Strategy

Section 6 (h)

Preventative strategies and programs to be adopted by the specified operator to minimise the risk of the specified operator's at-risk electric lines starting fires.

Melbourne Water applies an Asset Management approach to ensure efficient and effective management of our assets through full service lifecycle. Melbourne Water's strategies to mitigate bushfire risk are covered by two broad programs: the vegetation management program and asset condition monitoring and renewal program.

The Bush Fire Mitigation Plan (BFMP) is managed through appropriate contractor management processes as detailed below:

- Vegetation Management

- Condition Monitoring and Renewal Program
- REFCL Program.

5.4.1 Vegetation Management

Vegetation is managed as per Melbourne Water's [Electrical Line Clearance Management Plan](#). In summary, Melbourne Water engages a suitable qualified Vegetation Management Company (VMC) to complete inspections of all Melbourne Water responsible electricity lines to ensure compliance with the Code. The process to manage vegetation is as follows:

1. Works identified by the VMC is reported to Melbourne Water.
2. Melbourne Water's approved contractors complete the required work that has been identified in the inspection.
3. The VMC reports directly to a nominated project manager within Melbourne Water.
4. The VMC and contractors are subjected to Melbourne Water audits to ensure contractors are qualified to complete the works, are working to the required specifications and OH&S standards.

5.4.2 Condition Monitoring and Renewal Program

1. Melbourne Water's Service Enablement One Water team defines the scope of condition monitoring and frequency of inspection.
2. Work orders are generated by Melbourne Water's Asset Management Information System, Maximo, as per the defined inspection frequency.
3. The inspections are initiated by Melbourne Water's maintenance contractor, Programmed. A condition report is attached to the work order (note: the most recent inspection report is in Appendix G).

Defects are classified as:

- High – undertake corrective action this year before start of bushfire season; increase inspections to yearly until completed.
 - Medium – undertake corrective action within 2 years ; increase inspections to yearly until completed.
 - Low priority – plan for corrective action base on individual circumstance ; increase inspections to yearly until completed.
4. Corrective work orders are raised should any urgent issues be identified in the condition report. Opportunities for improvement or issues such as deterioration in asset condition are reviewed by Melbourne Water's Service Enablement One Water team as part of a condition rating review process.

Error! Reference source not found. shows the Melbourne Water organisation chart with respect to key accountabilities and responsibilities for the BFMP.

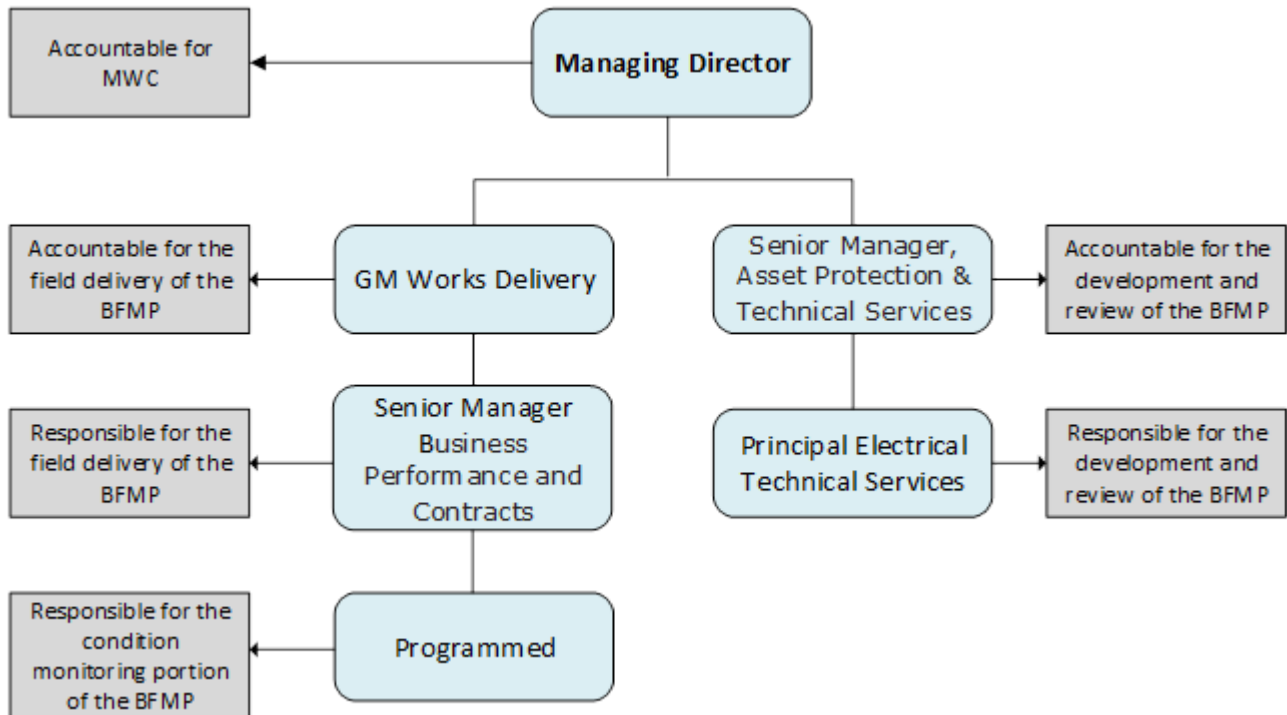


Figure 1: Melbourne Water accountabilities and responsibilities for the BFMP

Table 1 indicates the asset condition monitoring activities performed on HV power lines.

Table 1: Asset condition monitoring activities

Asset	Condition monitoring activity
Concrete poles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaning of poles Bowed poles Concrete cracks/ rust Soil erosion at the base
Stays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wire condition Anchor condition Insulator condition Eye bolt cracks Soil erosion
Insulators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cracks and chips Loose hardware Bolt rust
Cross arms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burning marks Bowing or bending

Asset	Condition monitoring activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loose, rust, or broken hardware
Conductors (insulated)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorrect sags Cracks in outer insulation
Connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loose or broken connections Conductor damage

Visual inspection of poles and lines is undertaken from the ground by Melbourne Water maintenance staff as per the preventative maintenance activities in Table 4. These inspections are carried out prior to Summer, for the At Risk lines, to identify any major, visible faults or potential risks, and compliance with relevant legislation.

Professional drone inspections of high voltage lines are undertaken on a 36 month basis to ensure assets are assessed from below and above by a qualified inspector. The frequency at Winneke site has temporarily been increased to twelve monthly pending completion of a project to address some remedial works. The results of the last inspection undertaken at Winneke in Jan 2024 is summarised in Appendix G: *Results of Last Inspection*. The next is scheduled for 2025.

The vegetation clearance program is a preventative strategy which involves the proactive inspection and clearance of vegetation along our power lines to minimise the risk of fire ignitions from power line-vegetation interaction. Vegetation inspection and maintenance along the power lines identified in this plan is carried out on an annual basis by qualified individuals. Inspections and maintenance activities should be carried out prior to each bushfire season. Vegetation clearance is carried out in accordance with the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020. The latest Vegetation Inspection Report was carried out in 2023, and relevant extracts are shown in Appendix I: Vegetation Inspection Report.

Please refer to the Melbourne Water [AM PLA MW Electrical Line Clearance Management](#) for further details including auditing processes.

Note: Melbourne Water ELCMP and other prevention programs are randomly audited by Energy Safe Victoria and work safe.

5.4.3 REFCL Program

The Essential Service Commission has amended the Electricity Distribution Code in response to changes to the Electricity Safety (Bushfire Mitigation) Regulations 2023 (Vic) under which the Victorian Government mandated the roll out of new bushfire mitigation technology across Victoria. The introduction of this technology forms part of the Victorian Government's Power Line Bushfire Safety Program.

AusNet Services has been installing Rapid Earth Fault Current Limiter (REFCL) technology at 22 of its zone substations in compliance with the Regulations.

The sites presented in Table 2 are within Energy Safe Victoria's Rapid Earth Fault Current Limiter ([REFCL](#)) program area. Note that only Sugarloaf Reservoir and Bells Portal fall within the scope of this document.

Table 2: Melbourne Water facilities located in REFCL operational areas

Facility	MW Overhead HV Lines	Under Current REFCL Program	In HBRA	Comments
Sugarloaf Reservoir	Y	N	Y	The backup 22kV supply is now normally sourced from a non REFCL substation Chirnside Park. Was originally sourced from Lilydale. Ausnet will only switch back whilst REFCL not operating.
Upper Yarra mini hydro	N	Y	Y	A project has been completed to harden the assets at MW owned substation.
Cardinia Silvan Pump Station	N	Y	Y	A project has been completed to harden the assets at MW owned substation.
Cardinia Dam Mini Hydro	N	Y	Y	MWC took ownership of this asset in 2023, post REFCL introduction. Previous operator Pacific Energy completed hardening works.
Silvan Mini Hydro	N	Y	Y	A project has been completed to harden the assets at MW owned substation.
Olinda mini hydro	N	Y	Y	A project has been completed to harden the assets at MW owned substation.
Greenvale Reservoir	N	N	Y	
Maroondah Reservoir	N	N	Y	MW is an LV customer.
O'Shannassy Reservoir	N	Y	Y	MW is an LV customer.
Tarago Reservoir	N	N	Y	MW is an LV customer.
Yan Yean Reservoir	N	N	Y	MW is an LV customer.
Thomson Dam mini hydro	N	Y	Y	A project has been completed to harden the assets at MW owned substation.
Bells Portal Pump Station	Y	Y	Y	A project has been completed to harden the assets at MW owned substation.
Epping Pump Station	N	N	N	HV equipment has been decommissioned. MW is an LV customer.

Facility	MW Overhead HV Lines	Under Current REFCL Program	In HBRA	Comments
Preston Pump Station and mini hydro	N	N	N	
Western Treatment Plant - Werribee	Y	N	N	This facility is not located in HBR area.
Eastern Treatment Plant - Bangholme	N	N	N	
Edithvale – Seaford Wetland	N	N	Y	MW is an LV customer.

Compliance actions were undertaken at the following sites impacted under the REFCL program as per Table 3 below.

Table 3: REFCL Readiness and Compliance

Facility	Compliance Achieved	REFCL Readiness
Cardinia/Silvan Pumping Station	<p>Protection settings reviewed and updated based on elevated voltages from the REFCL system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection settings reviewed and updated in accordance with Melbourne Water standards and REF 30-10 – HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) <p>Replacement of surge arresters with suitable ratings based on the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESV Guidance for HV Customers – DOC/18/21295 REF 10-04 – Equipment Building Block Functional Descriptions <p>Metering Compliance – Voltage Transformers comply with the Voltage Factor for GFN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service & Installation Rules Document <p>Testing/Replacement of Instrument Transformers to be rated to withstand the 24.2kV phase-earth voltages (with test certificates provided to prove compliance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instrument Transformers comply with the requirements of HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) – Document Number REF 30-10 <p>Replacement of Insulators – to withstand 24.2kV phase to ground voltages.</p>	Completed July 2020

Facility	Compliance Achieved	REFCL Readiness
Bells Portal Pumping Station	<p>Lowering of the Pole Mounted Transformers to improve maintenance access with considerations for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fencing requirements, earthing, drainage, level of proposed switchyard location, cable re-routing, concrete work etc. <p>Removing the need to perform manual HV switching in front of live switchboards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide means of remote switching to de-energized switchboard Provision of 3.3kV <p>Protection settings reviewed and updated based on elevated voltages from the REFCL system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection settings reviewed and updated in accordance with Melbourne Water standards and REF 30-10 – HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) <p>Replacement of surge arresters with suitable ratings based on the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESV Guidance for HV Customers – DOC/18/21295 REF 10-04 – Equipment Building Block Functional Descriptions <p>Metering Compliance – Voltage Transformers comply with the Voltage Factor for GFN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service & Installation Rules Document <p>Testing/Replacement of Instrument Transformers to be rated to withstand the 24.2kV phase-earth voltages (with test certificates provided to prove compliance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instrument Transformers comply with the requirements of HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) – Document Number REF 30-10 <p>Replacement of Insulators – to withstand 24.2kV phase to ground voltages.</p>	Completion October 2020
Silvan Mini Hydro	<p>Protection settings reviewed and updated based on elevated voltages from the REFCL system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection settings reviewed and updated in accordance with Melbourne Water standards and REF 30-10 – HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) <p>Replacement of surge arresters with suitable ratings based on the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESV Guidance for HV Customers – DOC/18/21295 	Completed July 2020

Facility	Compliance Achieved	REFCL Readiness
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> REF 10-04 – Equipment Building Block Functional Descriptions <p>Metering Compliance – Voltage Transformers comply with the Voltage Factor for GFN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service & Installation Rules Document <p>Testing/Replacement of Instrument Transformers to be rated to withstand the 24.2kV phase-earth voltages (with test certificates provided to prove compliance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instrument Transformers comply with the requirements of HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) – Document Number REF 30-10 <p>Replacement of Insulators – to withstand 24.2kV phase to ground voltages.</p>	
Olinda Mini Hydro	<p>Protection settings reviewed and updated based on elevated voltages from the REFCL system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection settings reviewed and updated in accordance with Melbourne Water standards and REF 30-10 – HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) <p>Replacement of surge arresters with suitable ratings based on the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESV Guidance for HV Customers – DOC/18/21295 REF 10-04 – Equipment Building Block Functional Descriptions <p>Metering Compliance – Voltage Transformers comply with the Voltage Factor for GFN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service & Installation Rules Document <p>Testing/Replacement of Instrument Transformers to be rated to withstand the 24.2kV phase-earth voltages (with test certificates provided to prove compliance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instrument Transformers comply with the requirements of HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) – Document Number REF 30-10 <p>Replacement of Insulators – to withstand 24.2kV phase to ground voltages.</p>	Completed July 2020
Thomson Hydro	<p>Protection settings reviewed and updated based on elevated voltages from the REFCL system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection settings reviewed and updated in accordance with Melbourne Water standards and REF 30-10 – HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) 	Completed March 2021

Facility	Compliance Achieved	REFCL Readiness
	<p>Replacement of surge arresters with suitable ratings based on the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESV Guidance for HV Customers – DOC/18/21295 REF 10-04 – Equipment Building Block Functional Descriptions <p>Metering Compliance – Voltage Transformers comply with the Voltage Factor for GFN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service & Installation Rules Document <p>Testing/Replacement of Instrument Transformers to be rated to withstand the 24.2kV phase-earth voltages (with test certificates provided to prove compliance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instrument Transformers comply with the requirements of HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) – Document Number REF 30-10 <p>Replacement of Insulators – to withstand 24.2kV phase to ground voltages.</p>	
Upper Yarra Hydro	<p>Protection settings reviewed and updated based on elevated voltages from the REFCL system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection settings reviewed and updated in accordance with Melbourne Water standards and REF 30-10 – HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) <p>Replacement of surge arresters with suitable ratings based on the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESV Guidance for HV Customers – DOC/18/21295 REF 10-04 – Equipment Building Block Functional Descriptions <p>Metering Compliance – Voltage Transformers comply with the Voltage Factor for GFN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service & Installation Rules Document <p>Testing/Replacement of Instrument Transformers to be rated to withstand the 24.2kV phase-earth voltages (with test certificates provided to prove compliance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instrument Transformers comply with the requirements of HV Customer Policy for REFCL Protected Networks (Load & Generator) – Document Number REF 30-10 <p>Replacement of Insulators – to withstand 24.2kV phase to ground voltages.</p>	Completed July 2020
Cardinia Dam Mini Hydro	<p>Transformer and HV switchgear replacement</p>	Completed June 2020

5.5 Procedures

Section 6 (i)

Plan for inspection that ensures that all of the specified operator's at-risk electric lines are inspected at regular intervals of no longer than 37 months.

Melbourne Water assets and activities, including inspection and maintenance works, are managed in an automated internal asset management system (Maximo). Preventative maintenance activities have been scheduled for all at-risk power lines to ensure instruction to carry out these works is automatically generated, and inspections are carried out at appropriate intervals (i.e. at 36 months).

Preventive maintenance programs have been scheduled for Melbourne Water managed at-risk power lines as outlined in Table 4. Vegetation line clearance maintenance programs are detailed in Table 2 of [Electrical Line Clearance Management Plan](#) and are not repeated here.

The most recent inspection of the Sugarloaf Power lines was in 2024 (Appendix G: Results of Last Inspection).

In response to a previous 2020 report Melbourne Water initiated two projects to remediate: H10922 - Yering Gorge PS and F10633 - Winneke substation. Project H10922 completed repairs to Yering Gorge PS line and completed some repairs to the treatment plant line between poles one & two in Sept 2021. Project F10633 will design and undertake repairs to the rest of the treatment plant line. The maintenance inspection (HAN27039) undertaken in 2022 provided an updated condition assessment independent of project F10633 completion. Some items required to be addressed earlier than the main delivery elements of project F10633. The first task of that project was to determine required mitigations that should be delivered before bushfire season 2023. This F10633 review identified early works at Pole 7, which were then completed in Nov 2023.

This plan has been specifically designed for the at-risk electric lines in the Sugarloaf-Winneke area and Thompson Dam, Bells Portal area. In addition to the plan, regulatory requirements for Sugarloaf, and Bells Portal mitigation, Table 4 also includes all other overhead lines owned by Melbourne Water. The intent of this inclusion is to provide internal clarity on overall risk management.

Table 4: Preventative maintenance programs scheduled in Maximo

Preventive Maintenance No.	Description (* indicates 'at risk line' activity)	Performer	Frequency (months)
HAN27039	Overhead Power Line Inspection - Sugarloaf Reservoir - External Consultant *	External Specialist Contractor	12 (temporary change to 12 months. Will consider reverting to 36 months once some identified non urgent

Preventive Maintenance No.	Description (* indicates 'at risk line' activity)	Performer	Frequency (months)
			remediation is completed. Project F10633 is addressing)
HAN27040	Overhead Power Cable Inspection - Sugarloaf Reservoir *	PGM	12
PM21902 (sequenced) - JP106308	Overhead Power Cable Inspection - Bells Portal *	PGM	12
PM21902 (sequenced) - JP106310	Overhead Power Line Inspection - Bells Portal - External Consultant *	External Specialist Contractor	36
PM13208	Tarago Reservoir Dam Overhead Power Line Inspection - External Consultant	PGM	12
PM13232	Silvan LV Overhead Power lines Inspection - External Consultant	PGM	36
PM13284	Cardinia Res Duffy's Overhead Power line Inspection Cardinia Overhead Power line Inspection - External Consultant	PGM	36
HAN21614	Western Treatment Plant Overhead Power Line Inspection - External Consultant	PGM	36
PM23778	Devil bend - External Consultant	PGM	36
PM23777	Montrose reservoir - External Consultant	PGM	36
PM13920	Pipe track private line - Gordon St, Croydon - External Consultant	PGM	36
PM14031	Pipe track private line Jarvis Av Croydon - External Consultant	PGM	36

PGM: Programmed – The Company engaged by Melbourne Water to provide Internal Services.

Section 6 (j)

Details of the processes and procedures for ensuring that each person who is assigned to carry out the inspections referred to in paragraph (i) has satisfactorily completed a

training course approved by Energy Safe Victoria and is competent to carry out such inspections.

Melbourne Water engages suitably qualified contractor(s) to undertake maintenance inspections of our HV overhead power lines in the Sugarloaf / Winneke and Bells Portal areas. The qualifications of internal and external contractors are reviewed and verified before engagement to ensure they meet the requirements of the national register of vocational education and training (VET). This ensures that people undertaking the inspections have the relevant qualifications and licences. This requirement is stipulated on the Work order and the requirement for the evidence to be attached to the work order.

The following is required for inspections:

1. Cyclic inspection of overhead power line assets including poles must have minimum *Certificate II in ESI - Asset Inspection and Testing* (course UET20621). Where this qualification has been attained in a State of Australia other than Victoria, induction shall be conducted by a person holding a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment at a minimum, and include information on Victorians Acts, Regulations, Codes of Practice, Safety Rules, Industry Guidelines and Asset Identification. Melbourne Water and its contractors maintain the records of relevant authorisation and review to ensure re-authorisation shall occur at intervals not exceeding a three year period.
2. Vegetation Clearance inspection - See the [Electrical Line Clearance Management Plan](#) for more details on vegetation clearance inspection.

Section 6 (k)

Details of the processes and procedures for ensuring that persons (other than persons referred to in paragraph (j)) who carry out or will carry out functions under the plan are competent to do so.

Melbourne Water engages suitably qualified contractor(s) to undertake maintenance activities associated with our HV overhead power lines in the Sugarloaf/Winneke and Bells Portal areas. The qualifications of internal and external contractors are reviewed and verified before engagement to ensure they meet the requirements.

Table 5 indicates the persons and their minimum qualification requirements to perform the tasks relating to the power lines specified in BFMP.

Table 5: Qualifications required to undertake BFMP tasks (other than inspections)

Task	Performed by	Minimum qualifications required
Vegetation control clearance removal works	Vegetation line clearance external contractors	Refer to Electrical Line Clearance Management Plan section 5 for matrix of qualifications
Overhead power line visual inspection from ground level	Operators	A grade electricians and authorised electrical operators
Overhead power works	Linesman, fitter, or jointers employed by the external consultant	Certificate III in ESI - Power Systems - Distribution Overhead 1 – UET30621 and if jointing, Certificate III in ESI - Power

Task	Performed by	Minimum qualifications required
		Systems - Distribution Cable Jointing 1 – UET30821
	Registered Electrical Contractor	Holder of Registered Electrical Contractors Registration

Companies undertaking vegetation management work and/or rectification work have the responsibility to ensure that their employees are suitably trained, assessed as competent, and authorised for the work that they are undertaking. Melbourne Water maintains the records of relevant authorisation and permits are only issued to work on assets where proof of up to date training can be provided. Melbourne Water's permit system automatically checks the training records of internal and its service provider personnel (Program) prior to issuing a permit to ensure re-authorisation shall occur at intervals not exceeding a three year period.

Section 6 (I)

Operation and maintenance plans for the specified operator's at-risk electric lines—

- (i) in the event of a fire; and*
- (ii) during a total or partial fire ban day; and*
- (iii) during a fire danger period*

5.5.1 During a Fire Event

In the event of a fire in the Sugarloaf catchment, Winneke Treatment Plant or surrounding area, Melbourne Water staff will immediately contact emergency services. If a fire is confirmed and has the potential to impact High Voltage lines, suitably trained technicians will conduct appropriate High Voltage switching works, to safely isolate the supply, prior to combating the fire.

Bells Portal is remote from main sealed roads. Only the last 64m of the supply line is owned and operated by Melbourne Water. As such any required isolations would be undertaken by the power utility Ausnet to the main supplying line. Melbourne Water's protection relay does not have auto reclose enabled at any time.

Melbourne Water is not a statutory firefighting authority. However, we employ more than 100 trained firefighters during the fire danger period to fight fires in conjunction with the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), Parks Victoria, and the Country Fire Authority (CFA). Rostered Melbourne Water firefighters may also attend a fire in the Sugarloaf/Winneke area if required.

Melbourne Water's response to a fire event would be carried out in accordance with our [EMRG POL Emergency Management](#).

5.5.2 Total or Partial Fire Ban Days - Ausnet Actions in Bells Portal area

In the Bells Portal and Thomson dam distribution area, AusNet pre-emptively isolate supplies.

The area within the AusNet Services Distribution network that serves Bells Portal and Thomson Dam, hydro and offices is considered by them as significant risk. As such AusNet disconnect supplies to the sites using their equipment as follows:

- MO105 is to be set to OPEN during a TFB day.
- Thomson Dam (MOE13) is to be OFF during a TFB day.

This is in accordance with their document [Ausnet protection setting operation guide on TFB days BFM 21-10.pdf](#)

5.5.3 Total or Partial Fire Ban Days- Actions by Melbourne Water

The risk of certain work activities starting a fire, or staff being caught in a dangerous environment because of a fire is extremely high on a Total or partial Fire Ban (TFB / PTFB) day. To help manage this risk, Melbourne Water has guidelines, procedures and instructions that must be adhered to on TFB / PTFB days, including declared High, Extreme or Catastrophic conditions under the National Fire Danger Rating system. These are listed below:

- [Water Supply Bushfire Preparation](#)
- [Winneke Water Treatment Plant Emergency Response Plan and Manifest](#)
- [AM PLA Sugarloaf Bushfire Risk Management](#)
- [H&S GUI Working During Fire Season](#)
- [H&S QRG Working on Fire Danger Days](#)
- [H&S QRG Planning for a Total Fire Ban and Extreme or Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating Day](#)

On fire danger days declared as High, Extreme or Catastrophic under the National Fire Danger Rating system Melbourne Water will defer High Voltage Switching Operations where practical or restrict operations to essential activities to maintain critical services. Commissioning of lines will not be undertaken. In the event a plant has experienced a High Voltage feeder fault, a visual inspection of the relevant feeders is conducted to ensure the fault has not initiated a fire.

The risk of Melbourne Water's HV lines starting a fire Sugarloaf and Winneke has been reduced through their design. The lines are insulated (ABC) and each of the HV lines are protected by vacuum circuit breakers, which are set to one shot lock out. The following elements of the protection relay are enabled:

- Phase overcurrent protection
- Earth fault protection

The protection settings are outlined in Table 6.

Table 6: Protection Settings

	I	Delay type	tI _e
Phase Over Current	$> 1.5I_n$	DMT	0.6sec
Earth/Ground Fault	$> 0.075I_{en}$	DMT	0.9sec

In addition, back up protection is provided by the transformer sensitive earth fault set at 1.2 sec.

Bells Portal Melbourne Water owned line section are bare conductors protected by an SF6 Circuit breaker.

Melbourne Water applies annually for Hot Work permits from the CFA under S40 CFA Act (1958) to ensure that emergency works can be undertaken on a TFB day. Emergency works are only to be carried to maintain Melbourne Water's assets critical to the health and safety of the public. Emergency works can only be undertaken where appropriate control measures are in place.

5.5.4 Fire Danger Period

Melbourne Water's inspection and maintenance programs for asset condition and vegetation clearance are completed prior to the beginning of a fire danger period, to ensure electrical assets are clear and operating during this period. Melbourne Water uses 30th November as the start date for works planning. Therefore, maintenance operations around electrical assets during the fire danger period would be restricted to fault investigation or emergency works, lowering the risk of potential fire ignitions during this high risk period.

The design features of the HV lines (discussed above) also help to mitigate bushfire risk during the fire danger period.

5.6 Performance Monitoring and Auditing

Section 6 (m)

Investigations, analysis and methodology to be adopted by the specified operator for the mitigation of the risk of fire ignition from its at-risk electric lines.

Melbourne Water applies a condition based maintenance approach to ensure mitigation of fire ignition risk from our at-risk electric lines (see Appendix H: Condition Based Monitoring Management Approach). Periodic inspections and works are undertaken to ensure the possibility of causing an ignition source from HV overhead lines is minimised by:

- Completing annual inspections and completing actions identified during inspections to maintain appropriate vegetation clearance; and
- Completing inspections every 3 years and repairing any identified defects during inspections to ensure electrical assets are in good working order and are operating in such a way as to mitigate the risk of fire ignition.

Any safety issues or incidents relating to the electrical assets are investigated using Melbourne Water's incident management system, IRIS. The incidents recoded in IRIS are reviewed by a team of senior managers and assigned to the most appropriate person to action within a given time frame. The status of actions not completed within the specified period is escalated to the next level up in the organisational hierarchy through internal reporting processes. The peak point of escalation is the Managing Director.

The assignee of the IRIS action will typically be directed to investigate and determine the root cause of the incident. Tasks undertaken to achieve this objective include:

- Site visits and information collection including photos and samples of materials.
- Brainstorming sessions with relevant people of various expertise if required; and

- Engagement of technically qualified persons (most instances a consultancy firm) to perform detailed analysis and recommend corrective actions to prevent recurrence of similar incident.

The risks associated with electrical assets (including bushfire risk) are considered during condition rating reviews. This process involves determining the consequence and likelihood of potential asset failure scenarios (using Melbourne Water's [Risk Management Procedure](#)) and evaluating the effectiveness of mitigation strategies currently in place. Risk ratings are used to determine and prioritise improved mitigation actions to reduce all risks to 'as low as practical.'

Melbourne Water annually reviews the effectiveness of the bushfire mitigation plan. Furthermore, Melbourne Water submits the Bushfire Mitigation Plan and Electric line Clearance Management Plan to ESV for acceptance annually. Recommendations and observations by ESV are actioned in accordance with the assigned priority. The Melbourne Water Operations Team monitors progress of each action.

Each year Melbourne Water engages contractors specialised in inspection and vegetation management to inspect and clear vegetation in October. These inspections also identify any obvious defects in assets as well as any abnormal vegetation growth. These defects are recorded in Maximo and corrective work orders are generated. The inspection covers 100% of the Melbourne Water HBRA.

In 2013 there was a fire start at Sugarloaf Reservoir in 2013, when an 11kV HV ABC conductor shorted on catenary wire and started a ground fire. The unscreened HV ABC were replaced with metallic screened HV ABC to reduce the likelihood of a similar fire start occurrence.

Section 6 (n)

Details of the processes and procedures by which the specified operator will—

- (i) monitor the implementation of the bushfire mitigation plan; and*
- (ii) audit the implementation of the plan; and*
- (iii) identify any deficiencies in the plan or the plan's implementation; and*
- (iv) change the plan and the plan's implementation to rectify any deficiencies identified under subparagraph (iii); and*
- (v) monitor the effectiveness of inspections carried out under the plan; and*
- (vi) audit the effectiveness of inspections carried out under the plan*

5.6.1 Monitoring and Auditing

Melbourne Water uses its asset management information system, Maximo, to assist with the monitoring and auditing of its asset management program.

Melbourne Water uses Risk Based Maintenance (RBM) and Reliability Centred Maintenance (RCM) methodologies to determine the optimum asset maintenance policies. A range of asset parameters including asset type, criticality, failure modes, operating environment, asset age, breakdown history, inspection reports and regulatory requirements are used in this process. All inspections required under this plan have been included in this system as Programmed Maintenance activities (see Table 4) which will automatically trigger work orders to complete inspections 3 months before the end of each inspection cycle, to ensure inspections and works

are undertaken in a timely manner. The outcomes of inspection reports are utilised to assign works (see Appendix H: Condition Based Monitoring Management Approach). The automatically generated workflow system ensures scheduled work orders are carried out on time. The Maximo system is configured to generate reports on any work that is delayed and escalate on the management hierarchy. Power line asset information including inspection reports, testing results, fault reports and completed works are retained in electronic form within Maximo by attaching to the work order.

In accordance with Melbourne Water's IT Security Policy, access to electronic information is strictly controlled via passwords and usernames. Each user is provided with the levels of access to specified parts of the system appropriate to that user.

Melbourne Water's vegetation clearing and pruning program is managed by [Electrical Line Clearance Management Plan](#) (ELCMP).

5.6.2 Plan Implementation and Effectiveness

Melbourne Water's Service Enablement One Water team ensure optimal management and performance of our assets. The implementation of this plan by Melbourne Water's Operations team will be audited and reviewed annually as part of the review of both the Bushfire Mitigation and Electric Line Clearance Management Plans. Any hazards, audit actions and all events such as fires are entered into Melbourne Water's incident management system, IRIS, as per [GOV PRO Event Notification Investigation and Analysis](#). The Service Enablement One Water team will audit Maximo and IRIS data to ensure the works are being effectively implemented by the Operations team and identify any deficiencies and/or improvements as required.

5.6.3 Plan Improvements

As part of the annual review of the Bushfire Mitigation and Electric Line Clearance plans by Melbourne Water's Services & Asset Lifecycle / Technical Services team, any deficiencies are addressed, and improvements are incorporated. These documents are stored in Melbourne Water's Integrated Management System (IMS) Controlled Document Library, and a system generated automatic process ensures that the document is reviewed and approved in a timely manner. This system also captures all changes and previous versions of these documents to allow an audit of changes if required.

Drafting documents used in the preparation of the next year's plan are located within the folder [Electric Line Bushfire Mitigation Plan Drafting Folder](#). These documents have DRAFT in the title and are watermarked *DRAFT*.

Following internal approval of the plan, this document will be placed in Melbourne Water's Integrated Management System (IMS) Controlled Document Library, where the most current version can be made readily available to all Melbourne Water staff. The 'add version' process is used to maintain the document ID number. This also maintains the preventative maintenance links in Maximo.

Melbourne Water may also review this plan as necessary to account for changes in context or risk. This may be triggered by circumstances including but not limited to:

- Changes such as organisational responsibilities or legislation
- Directions from ESV or fire management authorities
- Improvements in risk analysis and assessment techniques
- Changes to the bushfire risk in the area.

- Response to an event or incident (e.g. HV feeder fault, bushfire).
- Changes to onsite HV infrastructure.

Once updated, the Bushfire Mitigation Plan is to be submitted to Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) for review. The submission day specified in the Electricity Safety Act 1998 was amended 20/05/2025. Formal submission is now only required after 5 years from the plan's acceptance by ESV, subject to certain circumstances as defined by 83BBA of the Act. These are:

- developments in technical knowledge or the assessment of hazards relevant to the at-risk electric lines make it appropriate to revise the accepted bushfire mitigation plan.
or
- a proposed modification to the at-risk electric lines will result in an increase in the overall level of risk to the safety of any person or property arising from the at-risk electric lines.
or
- a proposed modification to the work practices covered by the accepted bushfire mitigation plan will result in an increase in the levels of risk to the safety of any person or property arising from at-risk electric lines.
or
- the specified operator proposes to make a change to the accepted bushfire mitigation plan.

Any recommendations for improvement or concerns must be addressed before ESV approves the plan.

5.6.4 Monitor and Audit Effectiveness of Inspections

Melbourne Water ensures inspections and works carried out by qualified third parties are effective through attendance at the time of works by a Melbourne Water electrical technician or Project Officer or verification during subsequent inspections. For example, a Melbourne Water project officer supervises vegetation clearance works, and Melbourne Water staff undertakes annual inspections along the lines to ensure clearance and operational effectiveness is maintained.

The effectiveness of annual and three yearly inspections and works will be monitored by a review of the inspection reports by the Service Enablement One Water team, as part of the annual review of Melbourne Water's Bushfire Mitigation Plan.

Table 7: Monitor of effectiveness KPIs

No.	Category	KPI	Performance Measure	Target
1	Number of faults on power line	Corrective work orders; recorded IRIS event	No faults on power lines due to installation issues.	0
2	Number of faults on power line	Corrective work orders; recorded IRIS event	No faults on power lines due to vegetation line clearance	0

No.	Category	KPI	Performance Measure	Target
3	Number of fires started from power line event	Recorded IRIS event	No fires initiated from power lines	0

Section 6 (o)

Policy of the specified operator in relation to the assistance to be provided to fire control authorities in the investigation of fires near the specified operator's at-risk electric lines

Melbourne Water has a long history of cooperation with the Country Fire Authority (CFA), Melbourne Fire Brigade (MFB), DELWP and Parks Victoria. Bushfire planning, mitigation and fighting on our land and in the water supply catchments is undertaken in conjunction with these agencies. Melbourne Water will assist Fire Control Authorities in their investigation of fires near our at-risk electric lines by:

- Assisting with safe access to assets
- Making assets safe before commencement of investigations including, where appropriate, isolating power
- Sharing appropriate information regarding an incident and related inspection or maintenance reports; and
- Inviting external authorities to attend incident investigations as required.

5.7 Energy Safe Victoria Exemptions

Section 13(1) Energy Safe Victoria may, in writing, exempt a specified operator or major electricity company from any of the requirements of these regulations.

Melbourne Water, as a specified operator, does not have any exemptions.

Section 13(2) An exemption under sub regulation (1) may specify conditions to which the exemption is subject.

Melbourne Water, as a specified operator, does not have any exemptions.

6. References

Document title
AM PLA MW Electrical Line Clearance Management
AM PLA Sugarloaf Bushfire Risk Management
Bells Portal Poles Cables Labelled Map.pdf
Bells Portal Span.xlsx
Water Supply Bushfire Preparation
EMRG PLA Winneke ERP and Manifest
EMRG POL Emergency Management
Feeder 1 & 2 sub & plant spans Winneke.xlsx
GOV PRO Event Notification Investigation and Analysis
H&S GUI Working During Fire Season
H&S QRG Planning for a Total Fire Ban and Extreme or Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating Day
H&S QRG Working on Fire Danger Days
Rapid Earth Fault Current Limiters (REFCL)
RISK PRO Risk Management
Sugarloaf Electricity Poles Cables Labelled Map.pdf
Sugarloaf Reservoir Overview OH line
Water Supply Bushfire Preparation

7. Appendices

Appendices
Appendix A: Locality map of the Sugarloaf/Winneke area
Appendix B: At Risk Power Line Location Maps
Appendix C: Winneke Treatment & Plant Line
Appendix D: Yering Gorge (Pumping Station) Line
Appendix E: Bells Portal Line
Appendix F: High Voltage Isolation Control Points
Appendix G: Results of Last Inspection
Appendix H: Condition Based Monitoring Management Approach

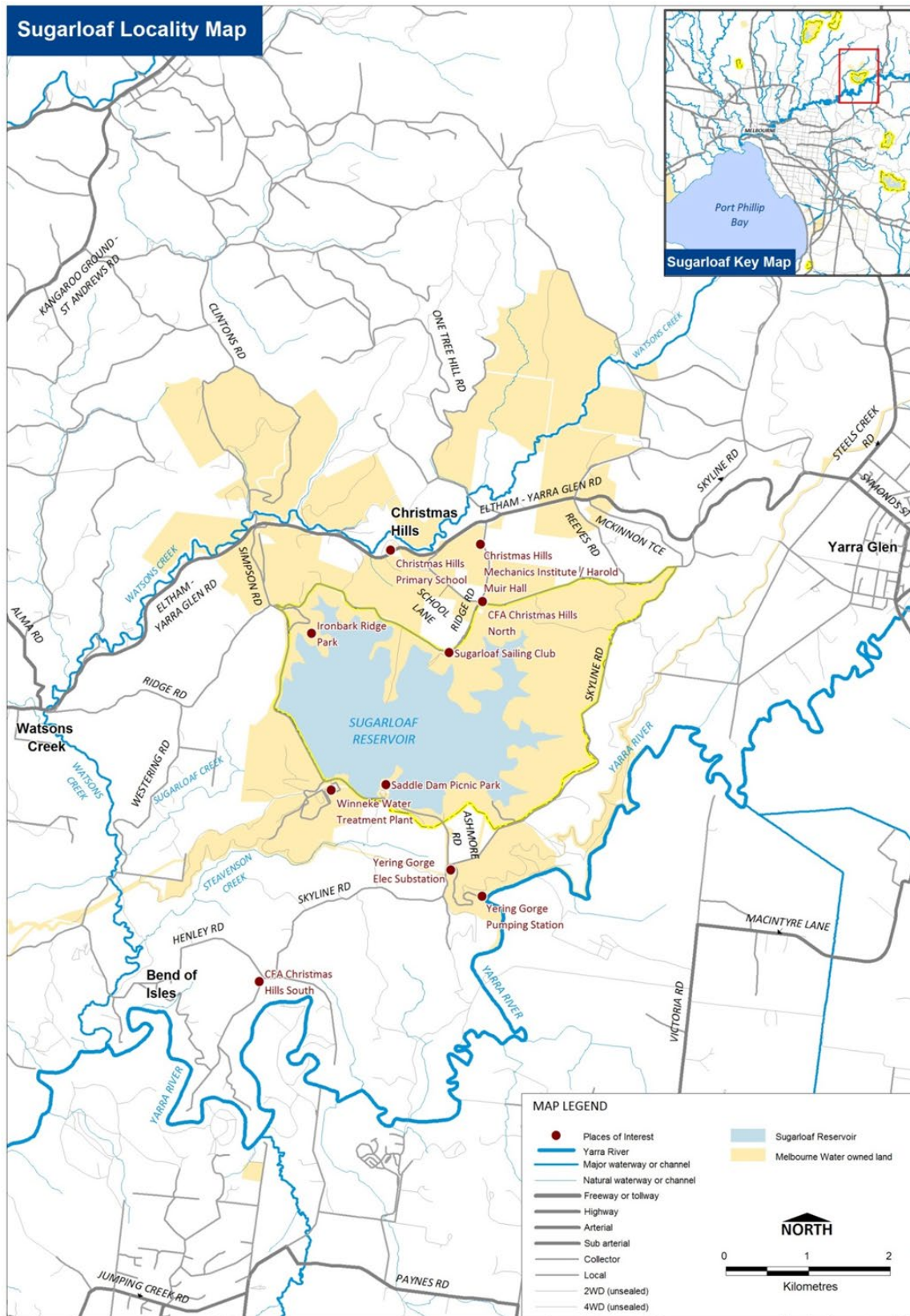
Appendices

Appendix I: Vegetation Inspection Report

8. Document History

Date	Reviewed/ Actioned By	Version	Action
June 2025	Principal, Electrical	25	5.6.3 submission date requirements to ESV amended is no longer automatically 1 st July annually. Updated for 25/26. Upper Yarra Reservoir removed throughout doc., amended roles / titles post company restructure. 5.5.2 added AusNet Bells Portal actions
Oct 2024	Principal, Electrical	24	Updated as per ESV comments
June 2024	Principal, Electrical	23	Updated for 24/25
June 2023	Principal, Electrical	22	Updated for 23/24
June 2022	Principal, Electrical	21	Updated for 22/23
October 2021	Principal, Electrical	20	Updated for 21/22 after ESV comment
June 2021	Principal, Electrical	19	Updated for 21/22

Appendix A: Locality map of the Sugarloaf/Winneke area



Appendix B: At Risk Power Line Location Maps

Power line location maps are stored in Inflo at the following locations. The images have been reproduced on the following pages so that they can be observed directly from this plan.

Inflo Links:

- [Sugarloaf Reservoir Overview OH line](#)
- [Sugarloaf Electricity Poles Cables Labelled Map.pdf](#)
- [Bells Portal Poles Cables Labelled Map.pdf](#)

AM PLA Power Line Bushfire Mitigation Plan

Plan



Electric Line Clearance -Sugarloaf

N

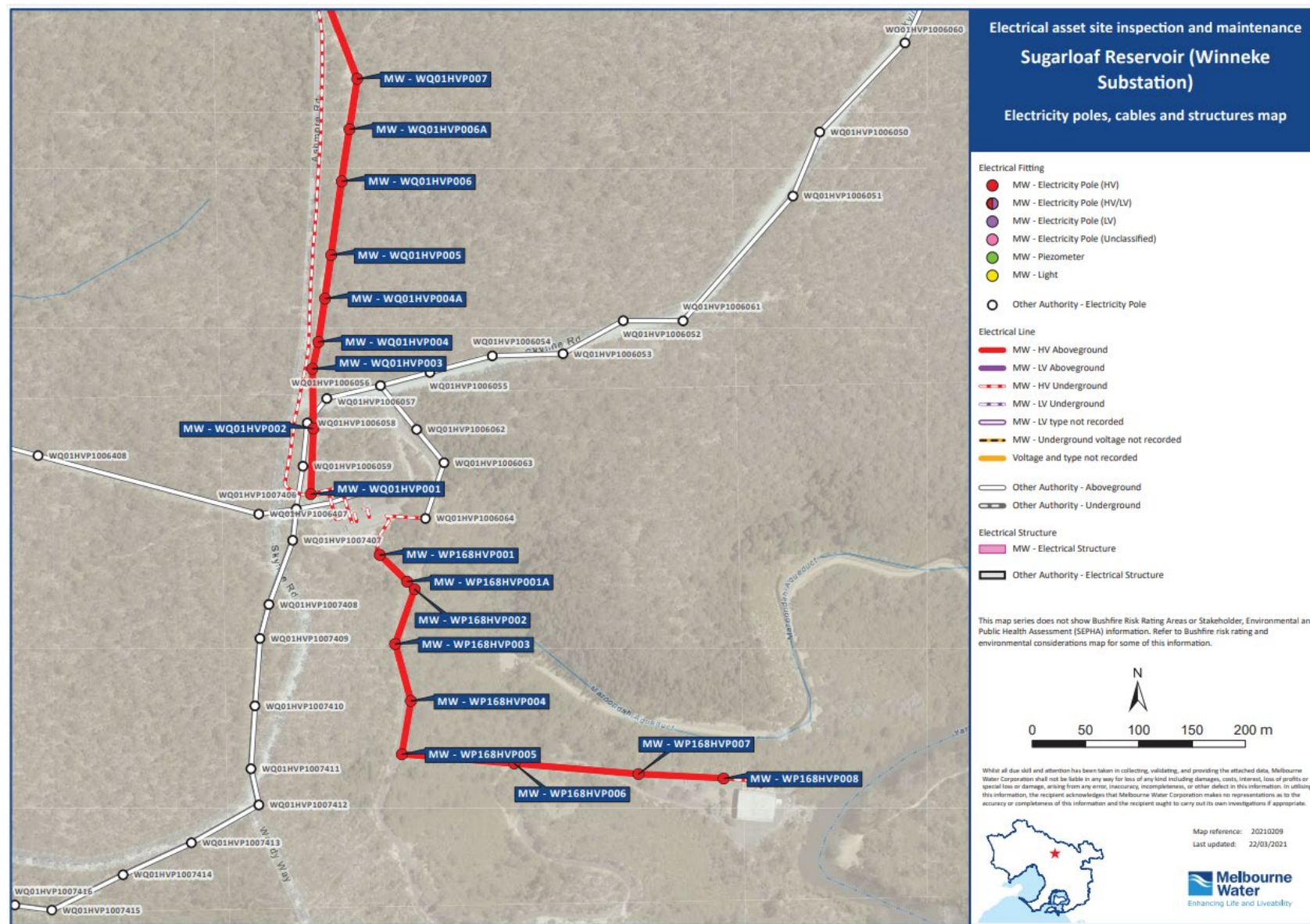
Map at A3
Scale 1 : 30,000

20/04/2020

Whilst all due skill and attention has been used Melbourne Water Corporation shall not be liable in respect of any loss or damage, including those arising from negligence, or otherwise caused by the use of this information. By receiving and accessing this information the recipient acknowledges that Melbourne Water Corporation makes no representation as to the accuracy or completeness of this information and might carry out its own investigation if appropriate.

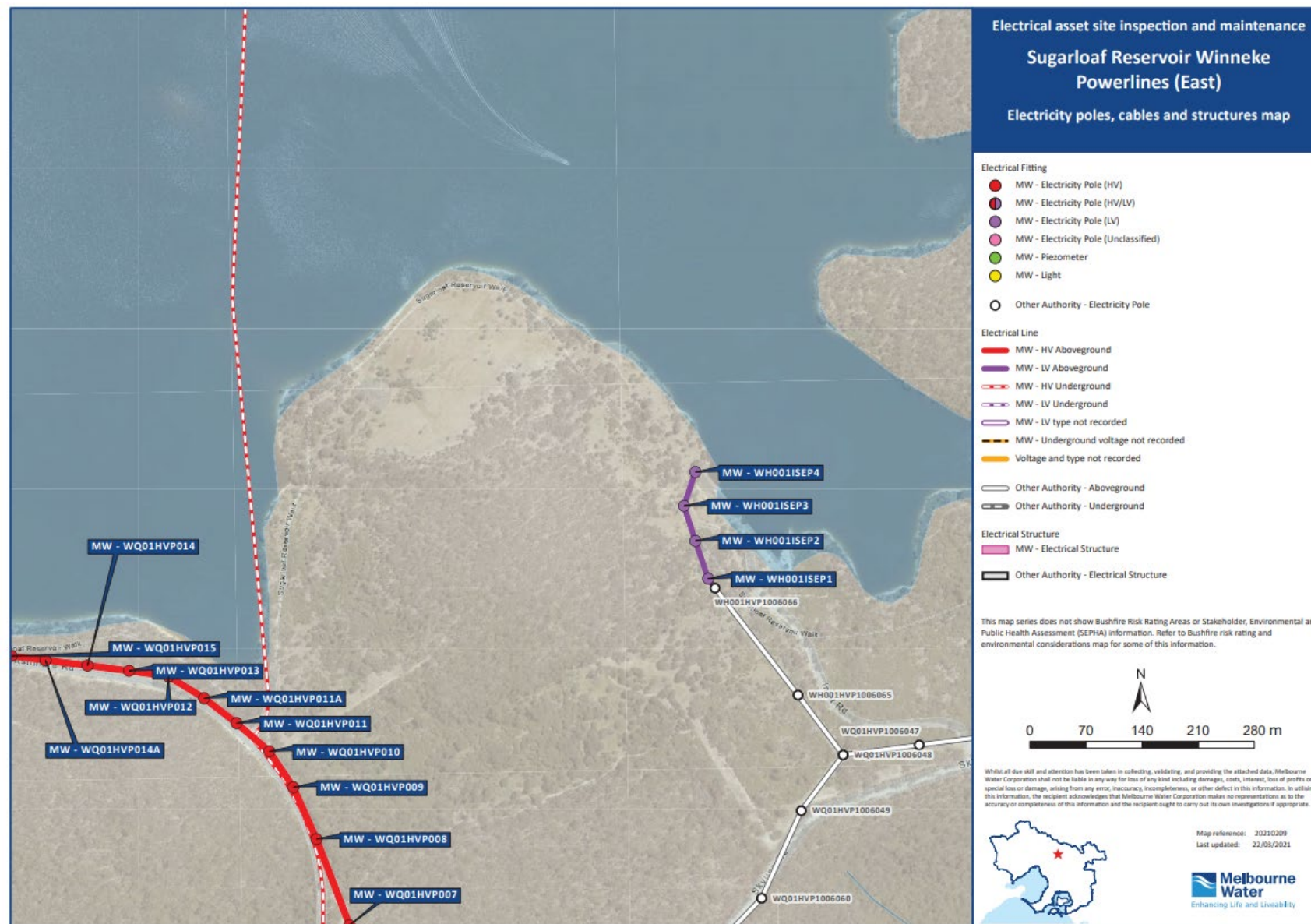
AM PLA Power Line Bushfire Mitigation Plan

Plan



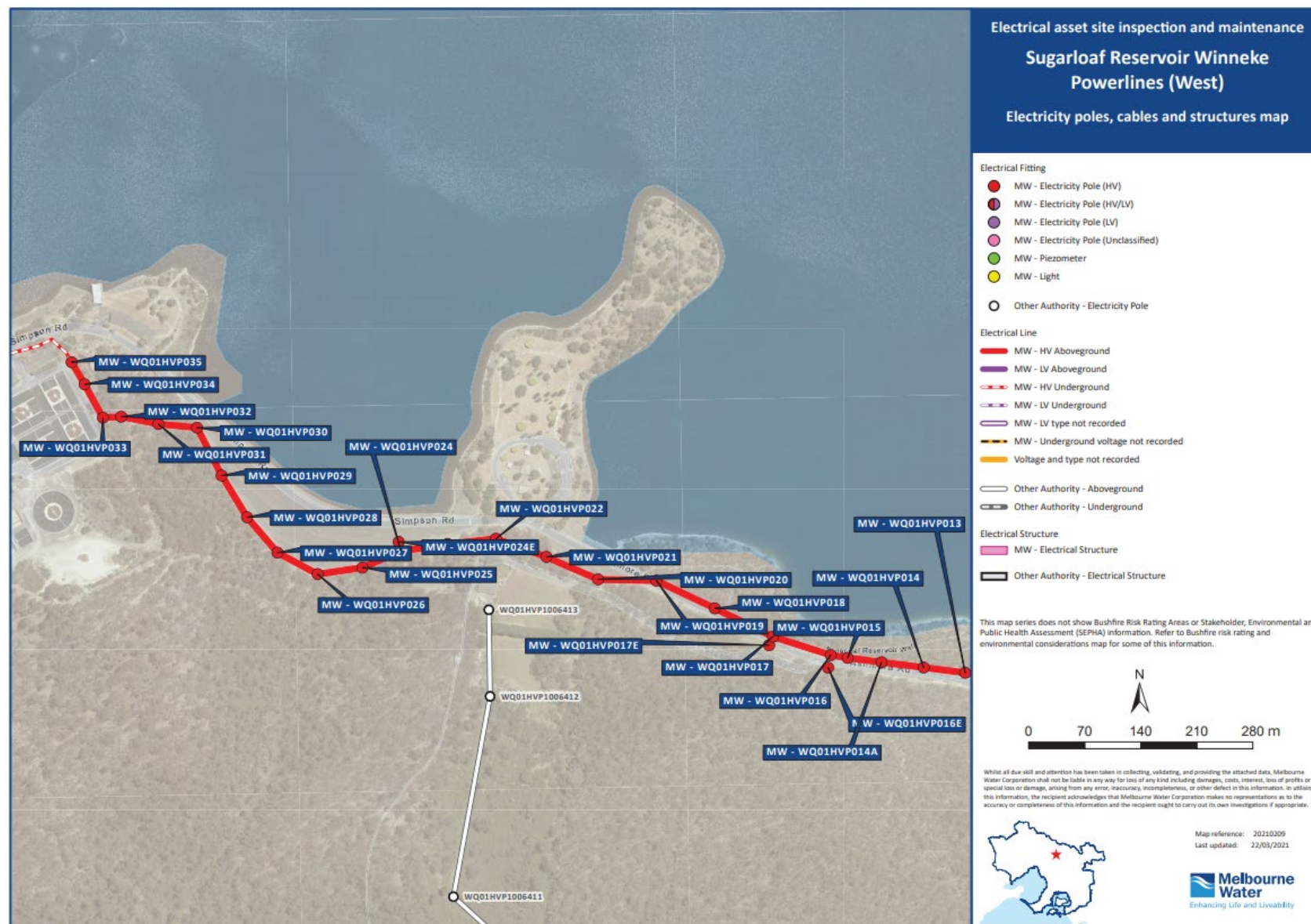
AM PLA Power Line Bushfire Mitigation Plan

Plan



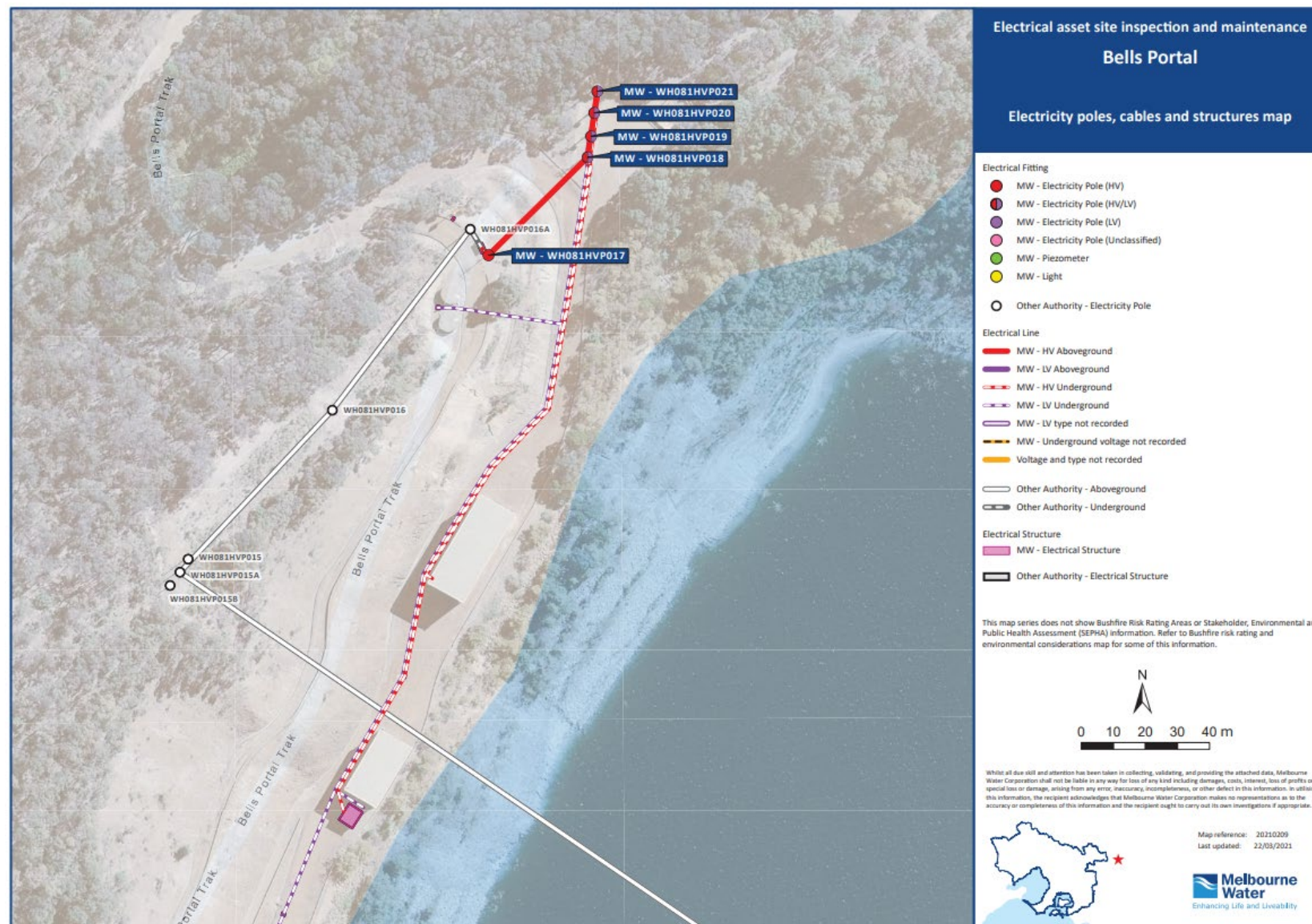
AM PLA Power Line Bushfire Mitigation Plan

Plan



AM PLA Power Line Bushfire Mitigation Plan

Plan



Appendix C: Winneke Treatment & Plant Line

[Feeder 1 & 2 sub & plant spans Winneke.xlsx](#)

Appendix D: Yering Gorge (Pumping Station) Line

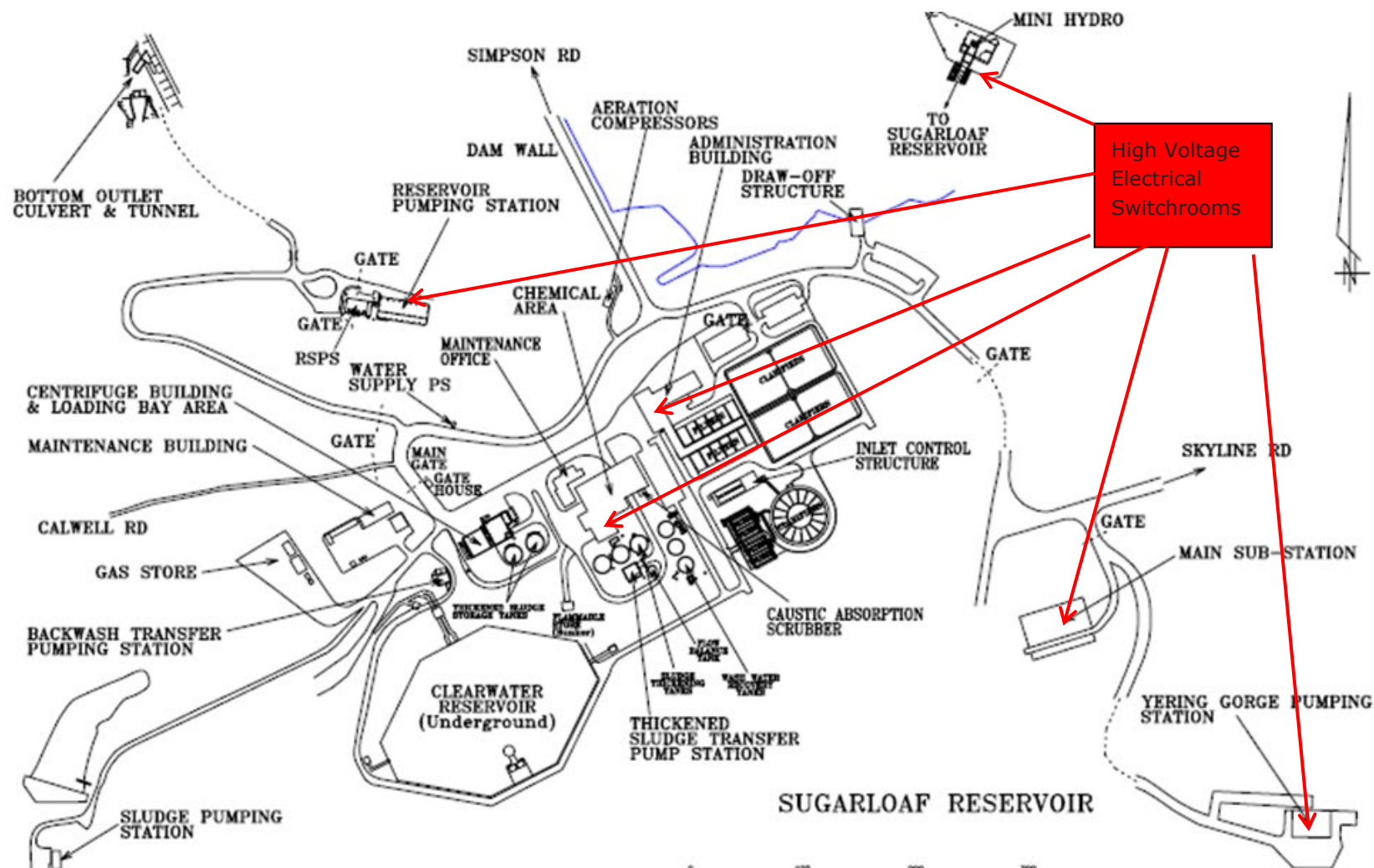
See Appendix C.

Appendix E: Bells Portal Line

[Bells Portal Span.xlsx](#)

Appendix F: High Voltage Isolation Control Points

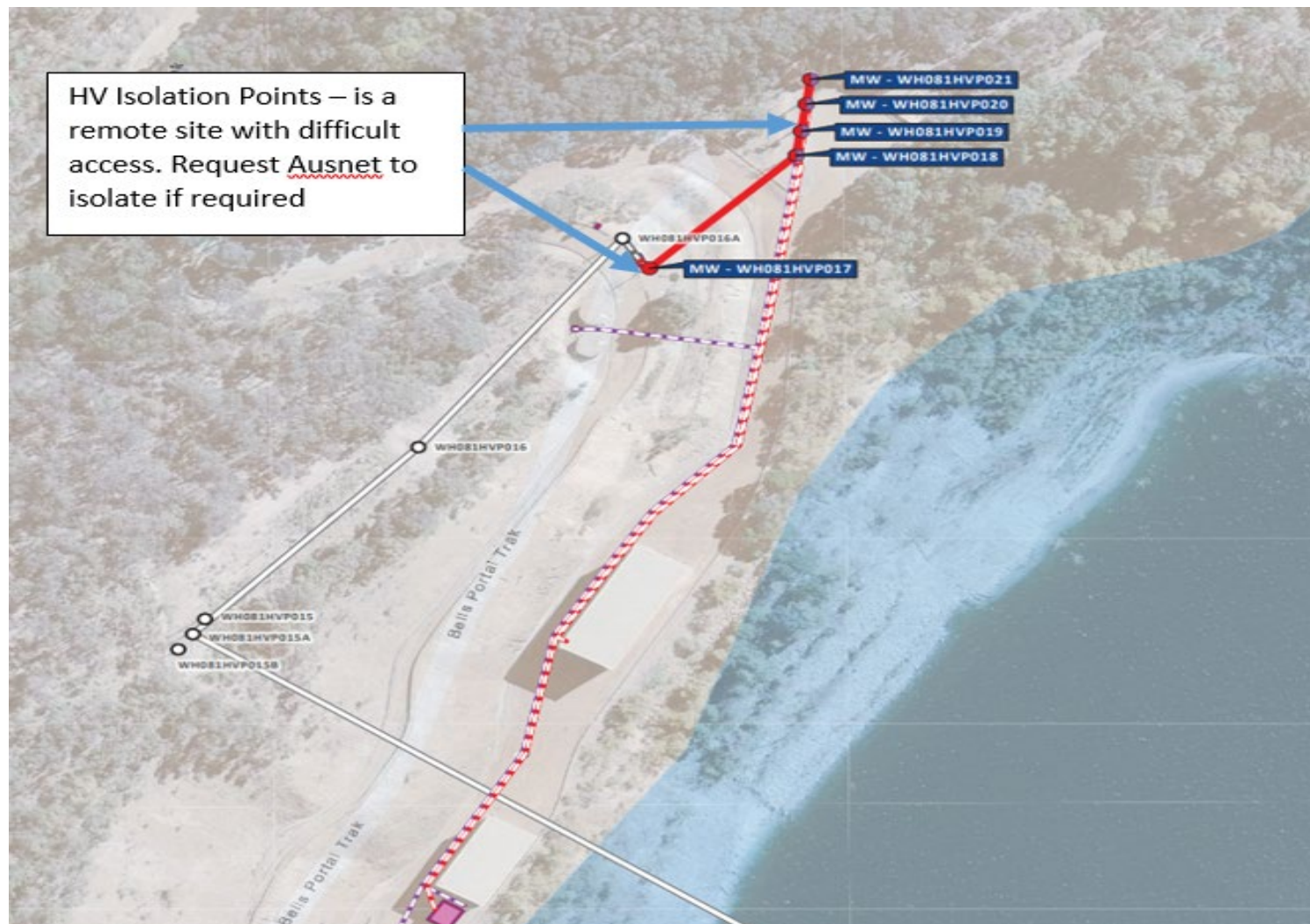
The following diagram shows location of High Voltage Isolation Control Points around **Winneke Treatment Plant** and **Yering Gorge**.



AM PLA Power Line Bushfire Mitigation Plan

Plan

The following diagram shows location of High Voltage Isolation Control Points around **Bells Portal**.



Appendix G: Results of Last Inspection

For details on the 2024/25 external inspect reports see link internal links below:

- [WO10154229_Omexom-WinnekePumpYeringGorgeReport2024\(241126\).pdf](#)
- Bells Portal inspection log reported no defects (WO9972512)

For details on the 2023/24 external inspect reports see link internal links below:

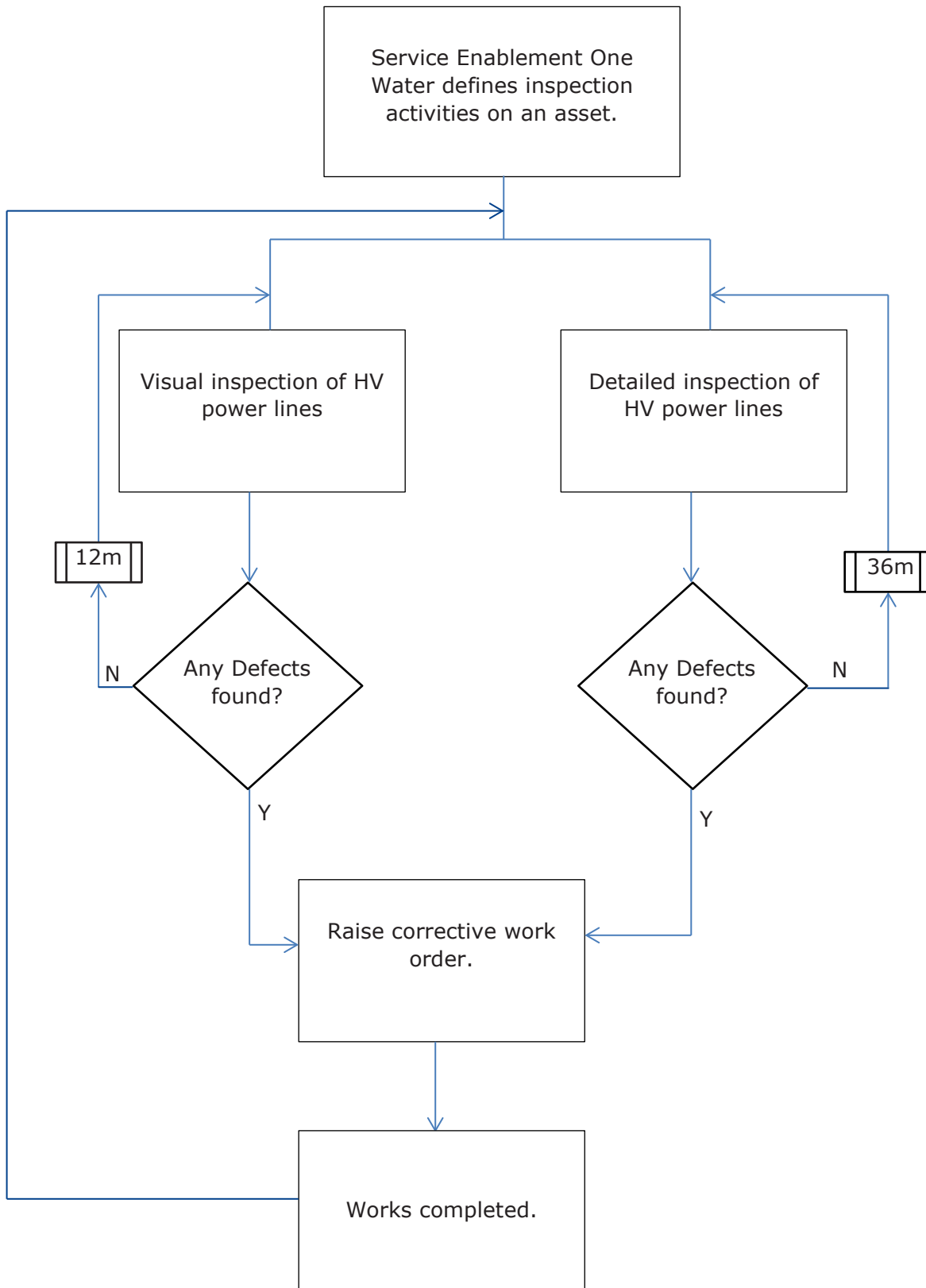
- [Omexom MWC Sugarloaf condition assess and recom Jan 2024](#)
- [WO8997548_Omexom_BellsPortalInspectionReportSep2023\(230914](#)

For details on the 2022 external inspect report see link to report below:

[Omexom Melb Water Sugar Loaf Inspection Report - Dec 2022\(221205\).pdf](#)

For Winneke, a project (F10633) is in development for general overhaul of the lines based on the 2022 & 2023 report findings. The latest (2023) report has identified two higher interest items. These will be addressed before this oncoming bushfire season.

Appendix H: Condition Based Monitoring Management Approach



Appendix I: Vegetation Inspection Report

There are no outstanding clearance works.

- _ Project P35268 undertook clearance works for 2024/2025 ([ELCMP 2025 post cutting clearance 2.pdf](#))