

Media Release



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Be bushfire ready by reducing the risks

With predictions of an early start to the NSW bushfire season, Essential Energy is encouraging property owners to act now to minimise fire risks around the home and on farms.

General Manager Safety, HR and Environment, David Nardi, said the NSW Rural Fire Service was expecting heightened bushfire activity following a prolonged dry spell and advised people to protect their properties.

“Property owners are encouraged to clear leaves and debris from their gutters, ensure lawns are mown regularly, and store wood piles away from homes,” David said.

“The end of winter is also an ideal time to identify vegetation growth that may be encroaching on overhead powerline safety clearances,” David said.

“Any potential hazards should be reported to Essential Energy on 13 23 91 for a safety assessment – don’t attempt pruning or removal of vegetation yourself,” David said.

Property owners can also download and complete a Bushfire Survival Plan and Farm FireWise Checklist from the Rural Fire Service website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

“In the event of a bushfire, treat all fallen powerlines as live and keep at least eight metres away,” David said. “Call Essential Energy immediately on 13 20 80 and watch out for damaged infrastructure or burning poles.”

“Essential Energy recommends rural property owners have access to back-up power to pump water and keep a mobile phone charged during high bushfire risk days.”

For more information about bushfires and electrical safety, visit essentialenergy.com.au/bushfire or call 13 23 91.

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Essential Energy is the operator of one of Australia’s largest electricity networks spanning 95 per cent of New South Wales’ land mass. Owned by the New South Wales Government, Essential Energy also provides water and sewerage services to customers in far western New South Wales.