



APPENDIX G

VEHICLE FIRE EQUIPMENT & VEHICLE MOVEMENT

DECLARED FIRE DANGER PERIOD & TOTAL FIRE BAN (TFB) DAYS

This applies for all Powercor personnel including contractors and sub-contractors when travelling off-road.

- All drivers are to be advised that vehicles with hot exhausts entering grassed areas can initiate fires.
- During “Declared Fire Danger Periods”, off-road activities should be limited as much as possible.
- Vehicles with greater ground clearance ie. 4 wheel drive vehicles, are preferred to be used when travelling off-road.
- All vehicles are to be fitted with an efficient exhaust silencing device.
- All vehicles must carry the prescribed fire suppression equipment.
- Drivers are to use already formed roads/tracks where possible, to access the work site, to limit contact with combustible material.
- At the work site, park vehicles in areas where there is the least amount of combustible fuel.

During “Declared Fire Danger Periods”, a risk assessment is required to be undertaken when vehicles are required to travel off-road.

The following checks should be included:

1. Vehicle Clearance – Check that grass and other combustible material will not come in prolonged contact with the vehicle exhaust system whilst accessing/leaving the work site.
2. Vehicles should be checked to ensure they are fitted with an efficient exhaust silencing device.
3. Vehicles should be checked to ensure no grass or other combustible material is trapped on or near the exhaust system, both before going off-road and before leaving the work site.
4. Vehicles must carry the prescribed fire suppression equipment prescribed in the CFA Regulations ie. At least one knapsack spray pump or stored pressure fire extinguisher of at least 9 litres capacity. (See below for more details).
5. Check the worksite before leaving, looking for any signs of possible ignition.

TOTAL FIRE BAN (TFB) DAYS

** **On Total Fire Ban (TFB) days**, off-road activity should be restricted to emergency/fault situations and other works necessary to maintain the network, that is risk assessed as safe to undertake.

FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

The prescribed fire suppression equipment must be :

- a) at least one knapsack spray pump that --
 - (i) is in proper working order ; and
 - (ii) is fully charged with water ; and
 - (iii) has a tank capacity of not less than 9 litres ; and
 - (iv) complies with AS 1687-1991 approved by Standards Australia in 1990 and published in February 1991 as amended and in force on 31 January 2004.

or

- b) at least one water (stored pressure) fire extinguisher that --
 - (v) is in proper working order ; and
 - (vi) is fully charged with water and maintained at the correct pressure ; and
 - (vii) has a tank capacity of not less than 9 litres ; and
 - (viii) complies with AS/NZ 1841.2:1997 approved by the Standards Australia in June 1997 as amended and in force on 31 January 2004.

Please Note: Where knapsacks are exposed to the elements the plastic knapsack may crack and be inoperative, hence they should be regularly checked for signs of deterioration.

NON VEHICULAR HEAT ENGINES

(Examples: Generators, Hoggers, Chainsaws etc.)

This applies for all Powercor personnel including contractors and sub-contractors.

During Declared "Fire Danger Periods" a heat engine must not be used in the open air unless:

- a) the heat engine is fitted with an effective spark arrester ; and
- b) the area around the heat engine is cleared of flammable material for a radius of not less than 3 metres

or

- c) a person is in attendance at all times the heat engine is in operation together with the prescribed fire suppression equipment for vehicles going off road.
- Please note: After use heat engines should not be placed near flammable/combustible material whilst the engine is still hot.

All Vehicles carrying Portable Generators

All vehicles that carry portable generators must carry a rake.