



Grid-scale batteries

Fire Prevention and Management



Do grid-scale batteries increase fire risk?

While management systems are implemented to help ensure that fire risk remains low, we understand it may be a concern for local communities. AGL designs its battery projects with fire safety as a top priority. We work with fire safety experts and carry out detailed risk assessments to ensure we meet safety standards. Each battery unit is housed in a fire-resistant steel container designed to withstand high temperatures. Individual battery cells, modules and containers must pass testing requirements before they can be installed. Units are spaced apart to help prevent fire from spreading from one unit to another. These measures help to ensure the risk of fires starting and spreading is low.

What other steps are taken to reduce bushfire risk?

Each battery site is surrounded by a safety zone, called an Asset Protection Zone. This is an area cleared of vegetation to help protect both the site and the local community from fires. It reduces the risk of fire damage by lowering fuel loads (like dry grass and leaves) and limiting heat, flames, smoke and embers. The size of the zone depends on the type of vegetation, the slope of the land and the design of the facility.

How does AGL prevent and manage fires at battery sites?

Each battery unit is fitted with advanced systems that can quickly prevent and detect fires. This helps reduce the risk of a fire spreading and causing damage. Every site has a detailed Emergency Response Plan that explains how fire risks are managed and what to do if a fire happens. AGL works closely with local fire services and regularly trains site personnel.

AGL's key fire prevention and management measures include:

- working closely with local fire services and emergency responders
- regular training and practice drills for staff
- clear shutdown procedures to safely power down equipment if needed
- fire water systems installed on site
- real-time monitoring and alarms to detect issues early, and
- strict rules about work on high fire danger days.

During day-to-day operations, we also:

- make sure emergency services can access the site easily

- maintain a reliable water supply for firefighting
- pause certain activities on days of high fire danger, and
- regularly inspect and manage grass, shrubs, and other plants around the site to reduce fire risk.

These measures help protect the environment, community, workers, and infrastructure, and help with a fast and coordinated response if a fire does occur.

What safety standards does AGL follow?

AGL's battery projects meet all relevant safety standards. We follow guidelines from fire services and planning authorities. Our fire safety plans are reviewed by independent experts and shared with local emergency services.

during both construction and operation. Noise levels can vary depending on location, terrain, weather and existing background noise. If predicted noise levels exceed the limits set by government policies AGL will introduce measures to reduce the impact, such as changing the layout or adding acoustic barriers.



Images: AGL's 250 MW grid-scale battery at Torrens Island South Australia

Contact

If you have questions or want to know more about fire safety at our battery sites, please contact us:

Phone: 1800 039 600

Email: AGLcommunity@agl.com.au