



# Battery Energy Storage Systems

Assistant Chief Fire Officer

Jamie Hansen



**FIRE  
RESCUE**  
VICTORIA





FRV serves and protects people and properties across Melbourne and Victoria's major regional centres.

- 85 fire stations
- 73,096 incidents responded to in the last year.

We're a team of over 4700 operational and corporate professionals collectively adapting and working with partner agencies and industry to ensure the safety of firefighters and communities.





Our specialist response capabilities include:

- Emergency medical response
- Road rescues
- Fire investigation and analysis
- Rope rescue
- Remote Piloted Aircraft Systems
- Marine
- Urban search and rescue
- Hazmat



**FIRE  
RESCUE**

**VICTORIA'S  
FIRST ELECTRIC  
FIRE TRUCK**

**EVIE**  
ELECTRIC VEHICLES FOR INCIDENT AND EMERGENCY



**FIRE**

**FIRE RESCUE**





# Guidelines

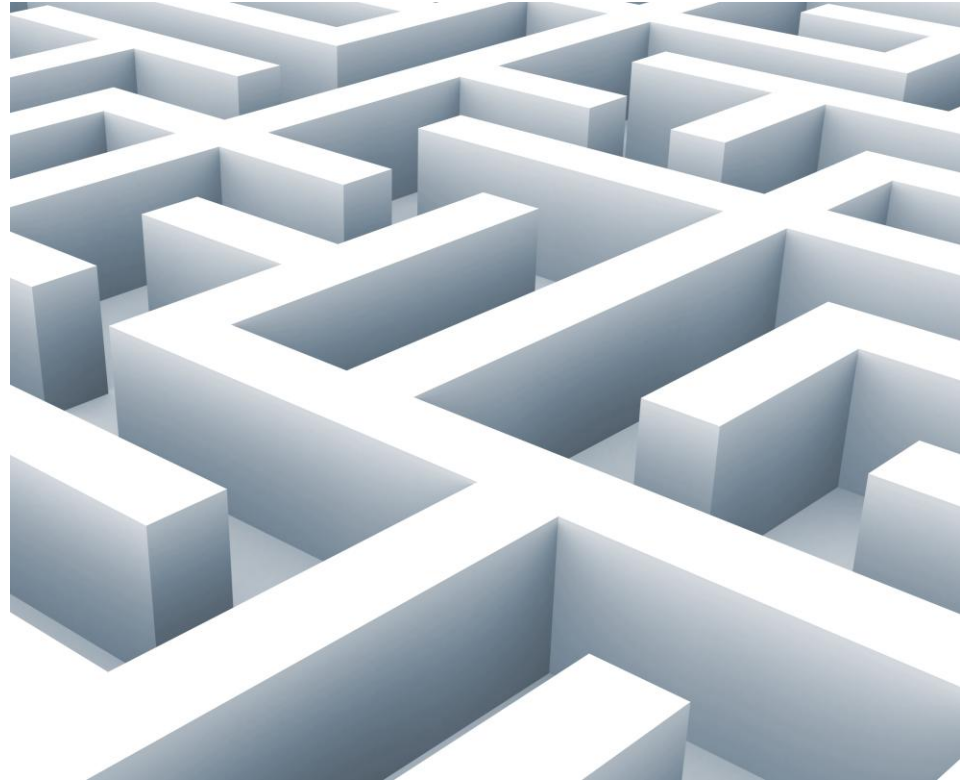
AFAC Guideline *Large-scale battery energy storage system installations*

Country Fire Authority *Design Guidelines and Model Requirements for Renewable Energy Facilities (2023)*

FRV Guideline 55 - *Battery Energy Storage Systems*

FRV Guideline 54 – *Fire Safety Study*

Risk Assessment Guidelines (AS/NZ ISO 31000)



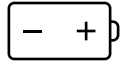
# Technical Documents



**NFPA 855:** Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems



**AS 3959:** Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas



**UL 9540:** Energy Storage System Requirements



**AS/IEC 62619:** Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolyte - Safety requirements for secondary lithium cells and batteries, for use in industrial applications



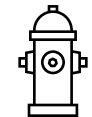
**UL 9540A:** Standard for Test Method for Evaluating Thermal Runaway Fire Propagation in Battery Energy Storage Systems



**AS/NZS 5139-2019:** Electrical installations - Safety of battery systems for use with power conversion equipment.



FM Global Property Loss Prevention **Data Sheet 5-33:** Electrical Energy Storage Systems




**IEC 62897:** ED1 Energy Storage Systems with Lithium Batteries - Safety Requirements.




**AS/NZS 4681:** The storage and handling of Class 9 (miscellaneous) dangerous goods and articles (Standards Australia, 2000)


# Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Papers

 Planning

Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory  
Paper No 2

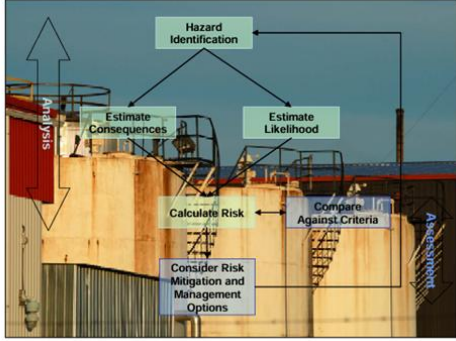
Fire Safety Study  
Guidelines



 Planning

Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory  
Paper No 6

Hazard Analysis



 Planning

Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory  
Paper No 4

Risk Criteria for Land Use  
Safety Planning



# Bushfire

*AS 3959-2018 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas*



# Emergency Information

- emergency contact numbers for BESS specialist support.
- location and layout diagram of the room or area in which the BESS is to be installed
- quantities and types of BESS units present.
- manufacturer's specifications including battery chemistry and product SDS
- description of energy storage management system (ESMS) and operation details
- details on installed fire suppression, smoke or fire detection, gas detection, thermal management, ventilation, exhaust, and deflagration venting systems.



# Firefighting Water



- Hydrant system complying with requirements of AS 2419.1: 2021
- BESS installations are considered special hazard areas to be considered under Appendix E.



## Community

200 kWh – 2MWh

Fire Risk Assessment

Consequence Analysis\*

Bushfire Attack Level

(BAL) Assessment\*



# Commercial & Industrial

1 MWh – 5 MWh

Fire Safety Study\*

Fire Risk Assessment

Consequence Analysis\*

Bushfire Attack Level

(BAL) Assessment\*



## Utility Scale

> 5 MWh

Fire Safety Study

Preliminary Hazard

Analysis



# Open Yard Storage

- Cluster Segregation: < 50m Length
- Separation Distances: 6m from fire hazard
- Stacking Restrictions: Not stacked
- Firefighting Access: Full perimeter access.
- Operational Firefighting Equipment: AS 2419.1
- State of Charge (SOC): 30%
- Battery Management System: Active
- Emergency Plan

An aerial photograph of a vast solar farm. The rows of solar panels stretch across the landscape, creating a strong sense of perspective. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall lighting is bright and natural.

# Contact FRV

[DangerousGoods@frv.vic.gov.au](mailto:DangerousGoods@frv.vic.gov.au)