

# pipingit

for our kids' future

## Fire-fighting update

### GWMWater...keeping you up to date on the Wimmera Mallee Pipeline Project

*Local brigades of the Country Fire Authority are currently reviewing hydrant locations along the Wimmera Mallee Pipeline route.*

Proposed hydrant locations have been mapped and pipeline planners are utilising brigade members' local knowledge to ascertain the suitability of these locations. This is just one aspect of the ongoing consultation between pipeline planners, local brigades and the CFA at regional and state levels.

#### **Additional resources**

The CFA currently relies on water from private dams and other water sources to support their units when fighting a fire. This will still be the case when the pipeline is built, with the additional and more secure water supply that the pipeline will bring to the region.

#### **Back-up supply**

There will be extensive back-up supply arrangements in the event of loss of power during an emergency. A combination of mobile stand-by generators and tanker access to town storages are part of these back-up supply arrangements.

#### **On-farm impacts**

With an estimated 50,000 litres of water required to protect a homestead and sheds from fire, it will be critical for private landholders to have tanks on their properties for fire-fighting.

*We recommend that farmers:*

- > Install tanks with Victorian CFA standard coupling fittings to connect to quick-fill tankers and pumps in an emergency
- > Ensure there is all-weather access to tanks
- > Work with their local brigade to assess risk and help with their planning

#### **Regional impacts**

Adapting the Wimmera Mallee Pipeline supply for fire-fighting purposes will require a major investment across the region in new fire-fighting facilities. Under the Water Act, Local Government is responsible for funding fire-fighting facilities in their municipality.

GWMWater is working closely with councils in the eight municipalities affected by the pipeline project, to explore funding opportunities that might be available to help offset the cost of new fire-fighting facilities.



*Dale Russell from the CFA, left and Andrew Sinn from the pipeline business unit discuss hydrant locations.*



**GWMWater**

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