

Bushfire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan -

A Submission to NALG Pty Ltd

01 June 2026



Bushfire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan A Submission to NALG Envirotech Pty Ltd (ABN 27 66 2479 459)
 Job No. 225-1013806

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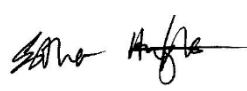
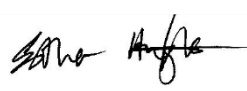
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Disclaimer

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In the spirit of reconciliation MRA Consulting Group acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and to Elders past, present and emerging.

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Glossary

Terminology	Definition
AD	Anaerobic Digestion
AFDRS	Australian Fire Danger Rating System
APZ	Asset Protection Zone
Assembly Area	designated place or places where people assemble during an evacuation
BFAR	Bush Fire Assessment Report
BFEMEP	Bush Fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan
Bush fire	A general term used to describe fire in vegetation, includes grass fire
EMP	Emergency Management Plan
EPC	Emergency Planning Committee
EWS	Emergency Warning System
FOGO	food organics and garden organics
IVC	In-Vessel Composting
m	metre
MC ROPS	MidCoast Regional Organics Processing Solution
NALG	NALG Envirotech Pty Ltd
NSW DPHI	New South Wales Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
NSW NPWS	New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Services
NSW RFS	New South Wales Rural Fire Service
PBP 2019	NSW Rural Fire Service - Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019
SEARs	Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements
T	Tonne
tpa	Tonnes per annum

1 Introduction

1.1 Proposal Description

MidCoast Council owns and operates a waste disposal and recycling facility at Darawank, that services the needs of the local community and commercial businesses for waste disposal and resource recovery.

Due to the NSW mandate for all Councils to provide a collection service for food organics and garden organics (FOGO) by 2030, Council has sought an operator to establish FOGO processing in proximity to the Tuncurry Waste Management Centre. This is proposed to be addressed through establishment of the MidCoast Regional Organics Processing Solution (MC ROPS). The proponent is NALG Envirotech Pty Ltd (NALG), a company specialising in environmental technology solutions, together with selected technology partners. NALG has been contracted to provide a facility utilising In-Vessel Composting (IVC) and Dry Anaerobic Digestion (AD) technology. This development will be an extension of the services offered in the region for waste management, however it will operate independently of the Tuncurry Waste Management Centre.

The proposed facility will be capable of processing up to 146,000 tonnes per annum (tpa). The proposal is defined as a State Significant Development, reference SSD 84090218. NALG submitted a Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) request, to which state government provided a response dated 18 June 2025 which included:

- New South Wales Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (NSW DPHI) requested a bush fire assessment report addressing the aims and objectives of *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019* (PBP 2019) should be prepared and include:
 - Details of proposed operational access for emergency services personnel;
 - Details of emergency and evacuation arrangements for occupants or visitors; and
 - A draft bush fire emergency management and evacuation plan that provides an outline of how the development will be managed or mitigated to address potential bush fire impacts; and
- New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) advised that a bush fire assessment report is required identifying the extent to which the proposed development conforms with or deviates from the relevant provisions of *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019*.

This Report comprises the draft **Bush Fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan (BFEMEP)**, which should be read in conjunction with the Bush Fire Assessment Report (BFAR). This draft BFEMEP outlines the planned approach for the Site and its occupants in the event of a bushfire and is based on the available planning level information.

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services must be consulted regarding the establishment, implementation and review of proposed emergency plans and procedures for the facility. Once more detailed information around construction, management, operation and occupants is available, the BFEMEP should be reviewed and updated. The BFEMEP should continue to be reviewed and updated at least annually for the lifetime of the facility.

1.2 Processing

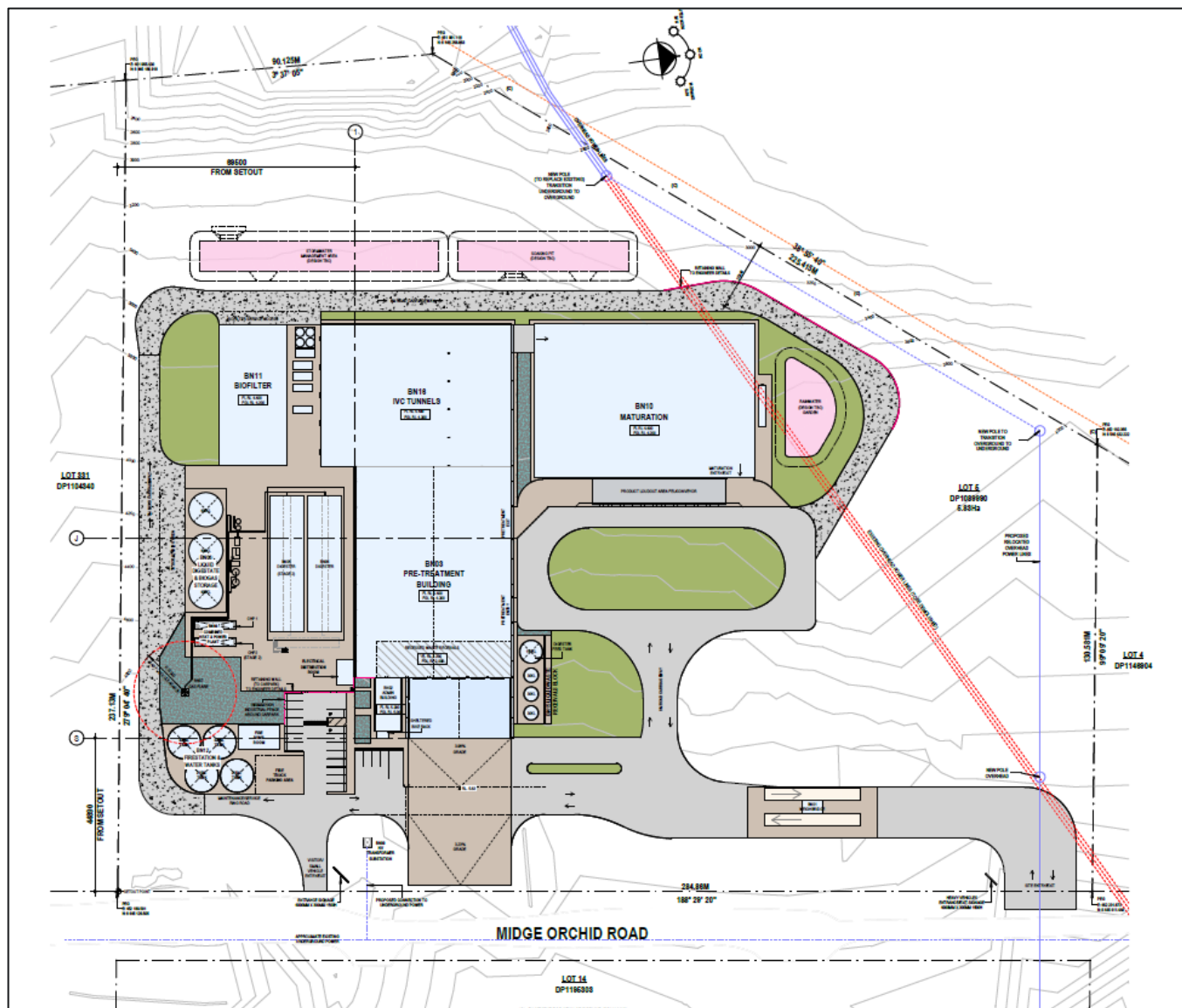
The proposed facility will have a throughput of 146,000 tpa and will include:

- Fully enclosed receival building
- IVC tunnels
- Dry AD, biogas handling and combined heat and power unit
- Digestate dewatering system
- Semi-enclosed maturation building

- Odour and particulate matter control including scrubber and biofilter
- Stormwater and leachate management

Figure 1 shows the proposed layout of the site.

Figure 1: Site Layout



Source: a&n Designs, 2026

2 Bushfire Assessment

2.1 Bushfire Risk Assessment

A BFAR has been produced by MRA Consulting Group, including a hazard assessment and a compliance assessment against the PBP 2019.

2.2 Bushfire Protection Measures

In order to achieve appropriate separation and reduce risk of bushfire impacts for the Site, its occupants, buildings and infrastructure, the following measures will be implemented on Site.

Asset Protection Zones

- APZs would be established and would be maintained in perpetuity.

Access

- Internal roads:
 - Minimum 4m vertical clearance;
 - Curves have an inner clearance of minimum 6m;
 - Minimum distance between inner and outer curves in 6m;
 - Crossfall is no more than 10 degrees;
 - Maximum grade does not exceed 15 degrees;
 - Suitable for minimum 23T load; and
 - Constructed with spray seal coating or asphalt.
- Suitable appliance parking to be provided adjacent to water tanks on site.

Water

- 2x 215kL tanks to be provided on Site and kept full at all times. An additional 2 stormwater retention tanks (2 x 430 kL) would be provided on Site for management of stormwater and water would be available for use. Fittings to be as required for Rural Fire Service/brigade specifications.
- Pump room to be provided and fire truck area adjacent to be kept clear and unobstructed at all times.
- All above ground water service pipes external to buildings would be metal, including and up to taps.

Electricity & Gas

- Where practicable, electrical transmission lines to be installed underground.
- Where overhead, electrical transmission lines are proposed as follows:
 - lines are installed per agreement with utility provider, which may exceed 30m spacing to avoid environmental impact; and
- No part of a tree is closer to a power line than the distance set out in accordance with the specifications in ISSC3 Guideline for Managing Vegetation Near Power Lines
- Relevant recommendations of Preliminary Hazard Assessment to be complied with.
- Hot work on site shall be performed under a safe work permit only.
- Firefighting equipment would be provided and staff would be trained in its use.
- Gas leak detection systems would be implemented.

Construction

- Buildings, structures, gates, fences and external utility infrastructure to be constructed of non-combustible materials.

- The building design should incorporate measures to avoid risk of ember attack including sealing of gaps and openings, use of gutter and downpipe leaf guards.

Landscaping

- Avoid removal of vegetation in areas of highest ecological value.
- Tree canopy cover would be less than 15% at maturity.
- Trees at maturity would not touch or overhang any part of any building.
- Vegetation would be managed to remove limbs up to a height of 2m above the ground.
- Tree canopies would be separated by 2 to 5m.
- Preference has been given to smooth barked and evergreen trees.
- Vegetation would be spread out and would not present continuous fuel.
- Shrubs should not be located under trees.
- Shrubs should not form more than 10% ground cover.
- Clumps of shrubs should be separated from exposed windows and doors by a distance of at least twice the height of the vegetation.
- Grass should be kept mown (as a guide grass should be kept to no more than 100mm in height).
- Leaves and vegetation debris should be removed.

Emergency Management

- A Bush Fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan would be implemented.
- An Emergency Planning Committee would be established for Site.

Operational

- All material would be received, stored and processed inside buildings.
- The site would be maintained in a tidy condition with vegetation debris collected daily during fire season.
- Gutters and vents would be cleared of vegetation regularly, in particular during fire season.
- Vegetation maintenance would occur regularly to comply with required standards.
- An operational environmental management plan would be developed including hazard and risk management on Site.
- All staff would be appropriately trained in Site management and operations.
- Maintenance of plant, fleet etc would ensure efficient running and avoid sparks.

Fire Suppression

NALG would provide fire services including but not limited to:

- Supply and installation of fire hydrants and firehose reel;
- Supply and installation of fire extinguishers and fire blankets;
- Supply and installation of fire pump system;
- Supply and installation of fire sprinkler system in Admin Building;
- Supply and installation of fire detection and alarm system

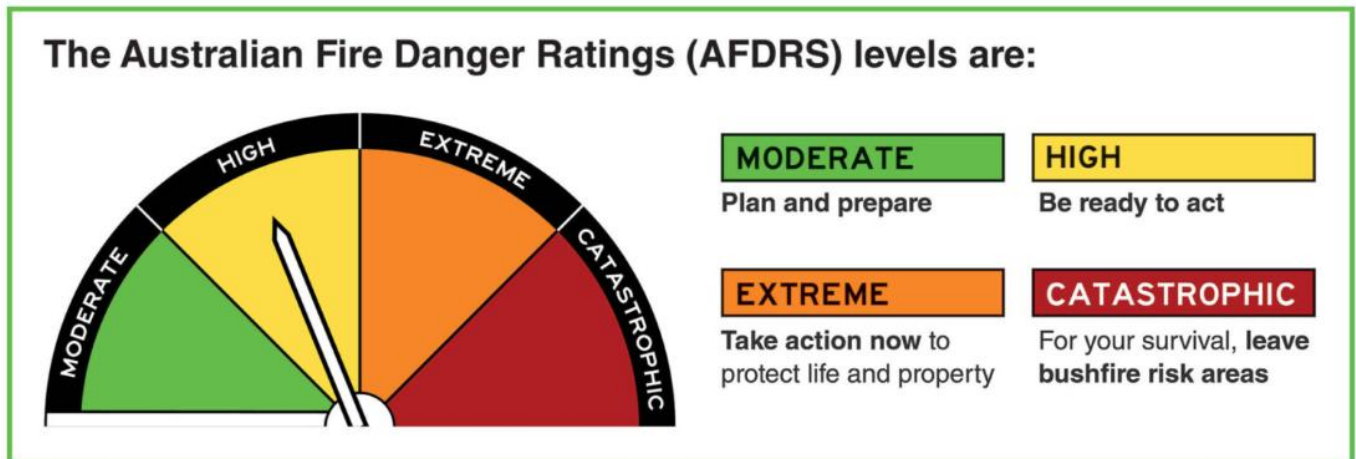
2.3 Australian Fire Danger Rating System

Fire danger ratings are used on days when there's a risk of fires and action is required.

The Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) uses four rating levels, each with a message regarding recommended actions.

The fire danger rating levels are:

- **Moderate:** Plan and prepare.
- **High:** Prepare to act.
- **Extreme:** Take action now to protect your life and property.
- **Catastrophic:** For your survival, leave bush fire risk areas.



A factsheet is available from https://afdrs.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/00_Fire-Danger-Rating-System-A5-factsheet-1.pdf and it is recommended that this is shared as part of the Site's training procedures. A copy is provided at Appendix A.

3 Bush Fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan

3.1 Context

A BFEMEP identifies appropriate procedures for occupants to follow in the event of a bush fire.

Sections of 3.2 – 3.8 of this Report form the basis of the BFEMEP and should be used to inform the final operational BFEMEP, which must be specific to the site, its occupants and operational practises.

The Plan must include an authorisation and review table, to ensure that it is reviewed regularly and that the most current version is being used.

The guidance in this section has been produced having regard to:

- AS3745:2010 Planning for emergencies in facilities;
- NSW RFS Development Planning – A guide to developing a Bush fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan; and
- NSW Rural Fire Service, Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.

3.2 Emergency Planning Committee

An Emergency Planning Committee is to be set up before occupation of site with the following roles and responsibilities:

- Establish, implement and review emergency plans and procedures;
- Confirm duties and responsibilities of positions;
- Formulate emergency procedures;
- Provide training for site occupants on emergency procedures; and
- Inform all occupants of procedures, roles and responsibilities.

Membership of the Committee should include:

- Workers at Site;
- Senior management; and
- Fire warden.

Consultation should also occur with:

- NSW NPWS;
- MidCoast Council;
- Local fire brigade (Tuncurry Rural Fire Brigade);
- NSW RFS; and
- Fire and Rescue NSW.

Given proximity and links to the existing Tuncurry Waste Facility, consideration should be given to collaborating with that facility and aligning responses.

3.3 Location Information

Details	
Facility Name	MidCoast Regional Organics Processing Solution
Address	48 Midge Orchid Road, Darawank, NSW, 2428
Access details	Site access is approximately 600m north of The Lakes Way / Midge Orchid Road intersection

3.4 Emergency Contact Information

Name / Organisation	Position	Contact	Responsibility
Site Contact	TBC	TBC	
Emergency	Xxxx	Xxxx	Xxxx
NSW RFS	Bushfire Information Line	Xxxx	Xxxx
Local Rural Fire Control Centre (Tuncurry)	Operations Officer		
NSW Police Force			

3.5 Site Information

Details	
Type of facility	Organics processing facility
No. employees	Up to 26 people may be present during construction During operations, 4 per shift (2 shifts)
Occupants with support needs	TBC (provide description where relevant)
Hours of operation	Construction: • 7:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday to Friday. • 8:00 am to 1:00 pm Saturday. • No work on Sunday or public holidays.
	Operation: 24/7

3.6 Actions

There is no requirement for the Site to be manned and as a result, early evacuation for all occupants is recommended in the event of a bush fire.

Primary Action	Trigger
Action	Evacuate away from Site and from bushfire
Early evacuation	To be determined with Site operations but could be either related to a specific AFDRS rating or proximity of a bushfire
Details	Under the instruction of emergency services, evacuate to the nearest place of safety, Depending on the fire situation, this may be their own home or it may be a town site or other neighbourhood.
Assembly Points	<to be completed by EMC>
Destination	In the event of a bushfire from the north, east or west: 1 Tuncurry beach Bowls Club (TBC by EPC) Address: Parkes Street, Tuncurry
	In the event of a bushfire from the south: Failford (TBC by EPC) Address:
Transportation Arrangements	Occupants are expected to arrive at Site in private vehicles and it is therefore expected that evacuation will be by private vehicle. There should be no circumstances when group transport needs to be organised.
Other Procedures	On site procedures regarding shut down and securing of plant and buildings will need to be developed.

Secondary Action	
Action	On site refuge
Trigger	In the event it is too late or no longer safe to evacuate, refuge should be sought on site.
Details	If evacuation is not possible, as a last resort refuge should be sought on Site. The most appropriate place will be the Admin building.

3.7 Action Statements

Event	Action
Before (Prepare)	TRIGGER: Bush Fire Danger Period Declared
	Ensure staff are prepared in accordance with the BFEMEP
	Ensure all persons are informed of evacuation / shelter in place procedures
	Ensure building and areas around buildings are prepared and maintained – APZs are to standard;

	Vegetation/debris cleared daily from buildings, gutters etc
	Ensure all fire fighting equipment has been checked and serviced
	All contact details current
	Update Emergency Services with site details
	Contact refuges to confirm details during bush fire emergency
	Monitor forecast and reschedule hot works and visitors to lower risk days
	Monitor conditions and remind all occupants of “ways to stay informed”: - Download the Hazards Near Me app and set up a watch zone for your area and receive alerts - Visit the BOM website for weather advice and warnings - Visit the Live Traffic NSW website to check roads to plan a safe evacuation - Download the Emergency Plus app and use the 'what 3 words' feature to give your precise location for emergency services - Find your local radio station e.g. ABC radio. Use a battery-operated radio, as power or mobile networks may be affected
During (Response)	TRIGGER: Bush Fire in surrounding area / AFDRS Catastrophic Rating
	Monitor conditions and monitor Emergency Warning Systems (EWS), NSW RFS website, 1800 NSW RFS, smart phone applications and local firefighting resources for fire situation and updates
	Keep Site occupants informed
	Ensure person in charge has mobile and is contactable
	TRIGGER: Approaching Bushfire (bushfire threatening premises within 2 hours)
	Commence evacuation
	Obey all instructions from emergency services
	Continue to monitor conditions and warning services
	Ensure all staff are accounted for and confirm when they are in a safer place
	Implement safety protocols for plant and buildings
	TRIGGER: Bush Fire in immediate surrounds (imminent threat)
	Obey all instructions from emergency services
After	It may be too late to evacuate – there may be a need to refuge on site as last resort
	Do not return to Site until advised it is safe to do so
	Ensure all occupants are accounted for

Appendix 1 Site Plans & Maps

Figure 2: Layout

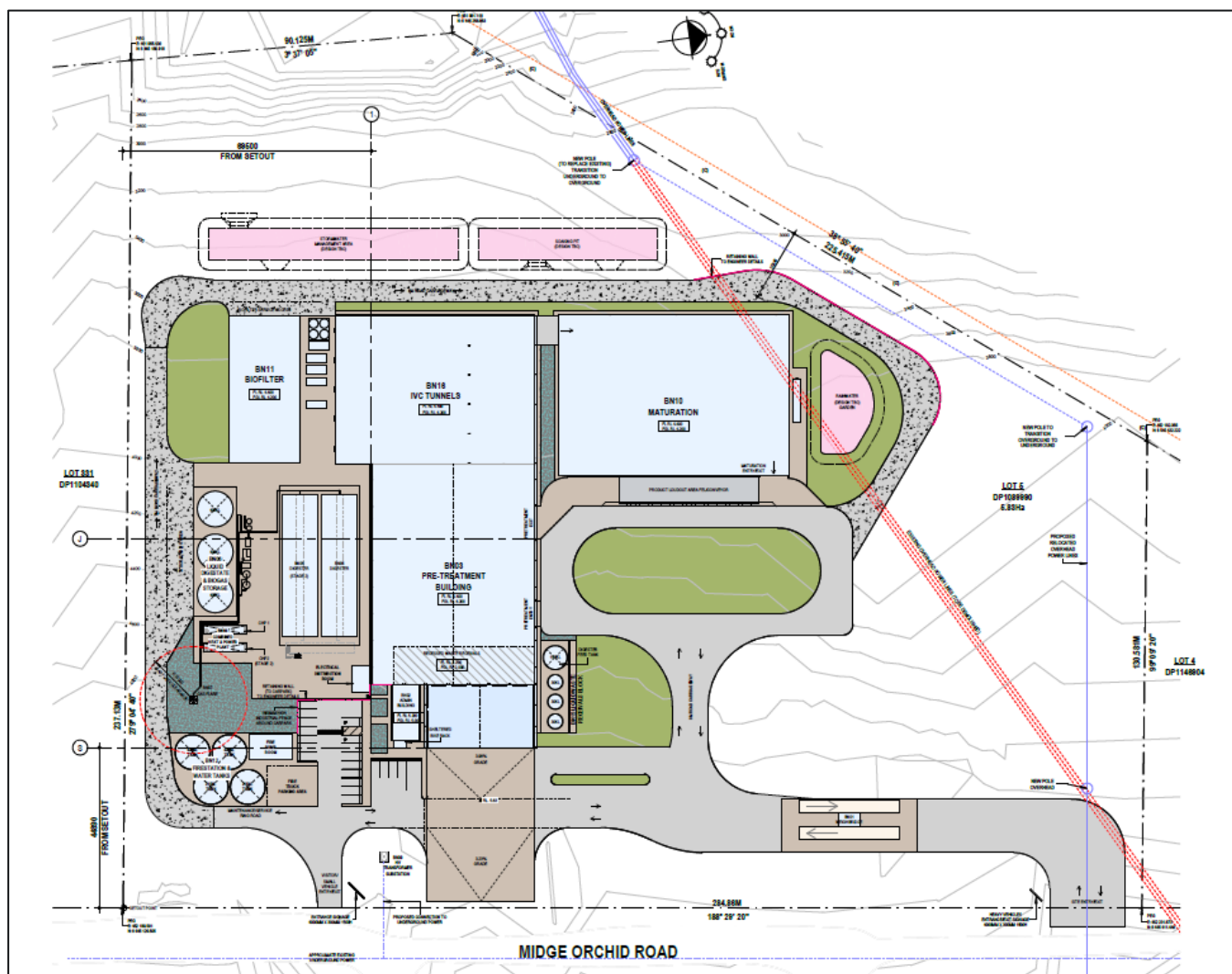


Figure 3: Fire suppression

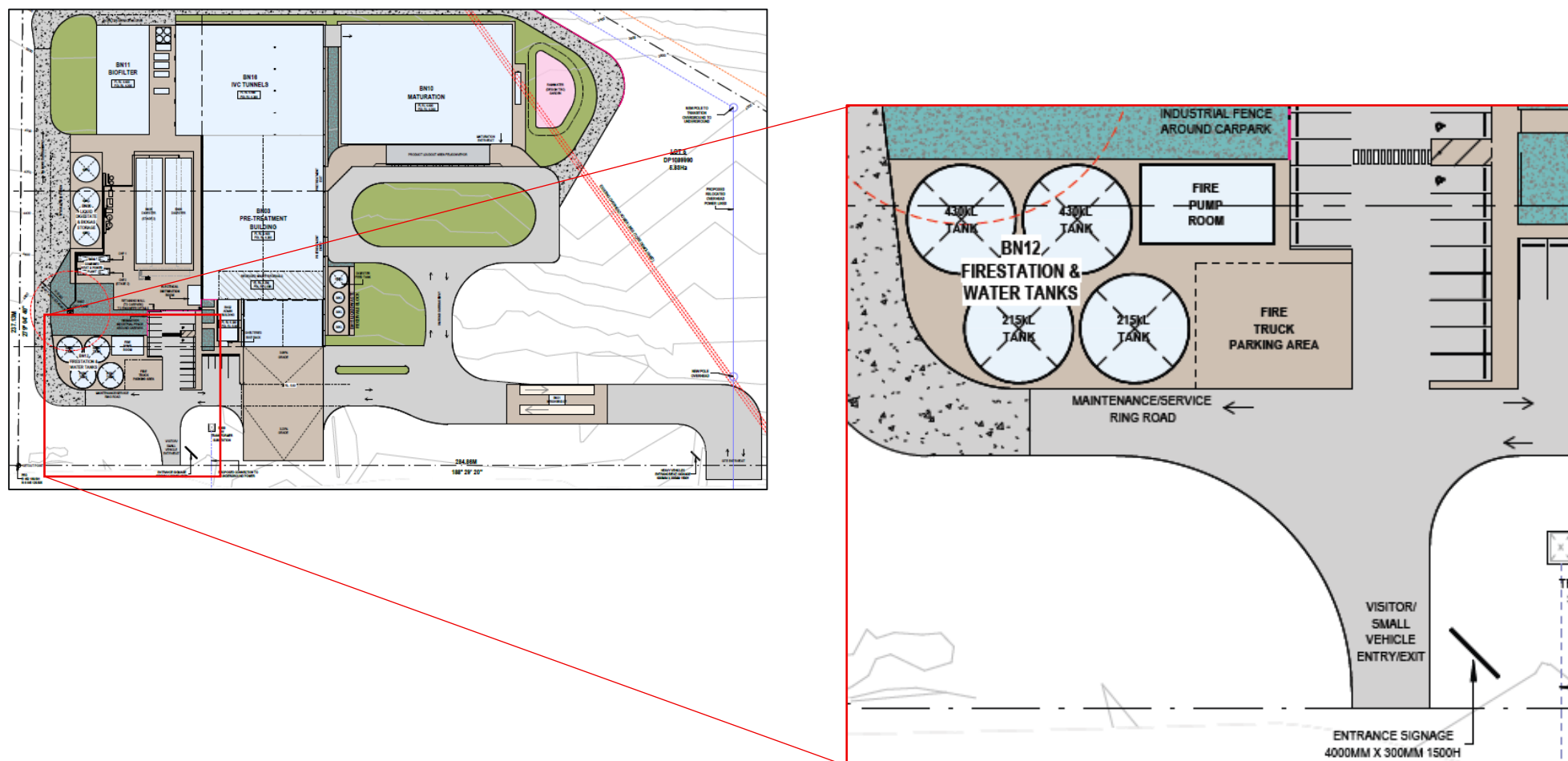


Figure 4: Evacuation routes

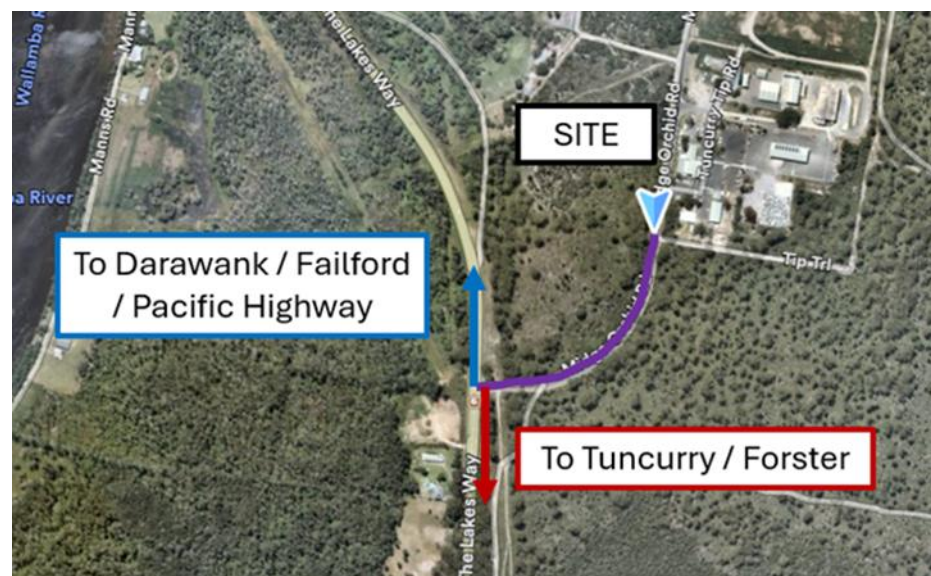
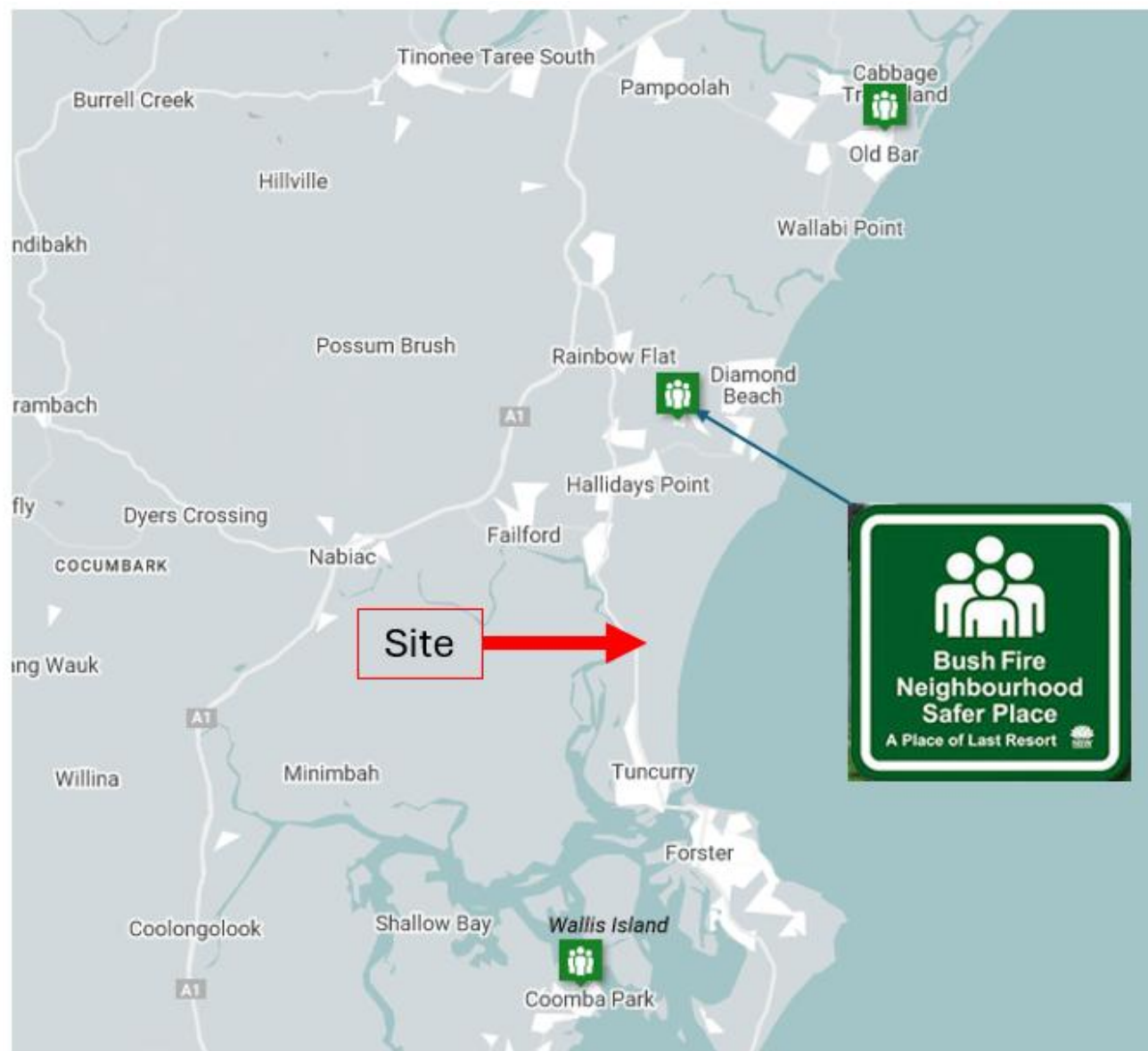


Figure 5: Bushfire Neighbourhood Safer Places



Appendix 2 Australian Fire Danger Rating System

FIRE DANGER RATINGS HAVE CHANGED

KNOWING THE FIRE DANGER RATING MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE

Fire Danger Ratings are now simpler and easier to understand. By using the latest science and technology, they provide a more clear and accurate rating to save properties and lives.

The Fire Danger Ratings give you an indication of the consequences of a fire, if a fire was to start.

The higher the rating is, the more dangerous the conditions will be.



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The Fire Danger Ratings have four levels, which are:

MODERATE	HIGH
Plan and prepare.	Be ready to act.
Most fires can be controlled.	Fires can be dangerous.
› Stay up to date and be ready to act if there is a fire.	› There's a heightened risk. Be alert for fires in your area. › Decide what you will do if a fire starts. › If a fire starts, your life and property may be at risk. The safest option is to avoid bush fire risk areas.
EXTREME	CATASTROPHIC
Take action now to protect your life and property.	For your survival, leave bush fire risk areas.
Fires will spread quickly and be extremely dangerous.	If a fire starts and takes hold, lives are likely to be lost.
› These are dangerous fire conditions. › Check your bush fire plan and that your property is fire ready. › If a fire starts, take immediate action. If you and your property are not prepared to the highest level, go to a safer location well before the fire impacts. › Reconsider travel through bush fire risk areas.	› These are the most dangerous conditions for a fire. › Your life may depend on the decisions you make, even before there is a fire. › Stay safe by going to a safer location early in the morning or the night before. › Homes cannot withstand fires in these conditions. You may not be able to leave and help may not be available.

NO RATING: On days when there's minimal risk, the white bar meaning 'No Rating' will be used. Report any fires to 000.

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