

1. Introduction

The protection of the environment is one of the fundamental values associated with all TransGrid activities. Working towards effectively integrating this value into our day-to-day business functions is essential to our long-term business success. TransGrid's approach to improved environmental management rests significantly with its staff members.

A focus on staff training and authorisation that provides staff with skills in the areas of environmental assessment and environmental protection have resulted in a range of checks and balances aimed at protecting the environment in which we operate.

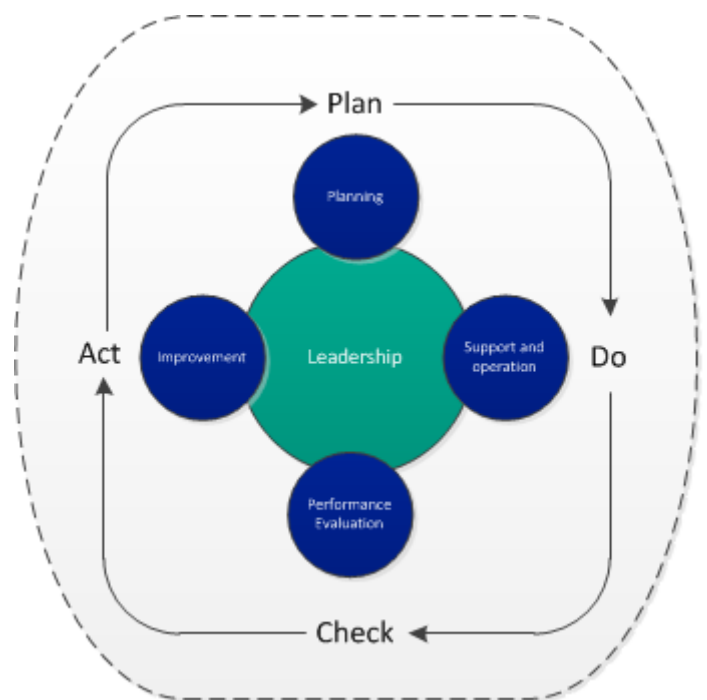
In addition to these industry-leading initiatives, TransGrid's Environmental Management System (EMS) has been developed to identify and manage potential significant environmental impacts associated with our activities and services.

At an organisational level, our EMS involves:

- > Planning to implement policy
- > Implementing programs and procedures identified from the planning
- > Monitoring performance
- > Correcting problems
- > Periodically reviewing the entire system

This is a repeating cycle of plan, do, check and act.

The information contained within this document covers the key environmental programs and initiatives undertaken by the organisation, in addition to a range of useful links, documents, reports and resources.



2. Environment Policy

TransGrid has developed an [Environmental Policy](#)

TransGrid is committed to conducting its activities and services in a manner that minimises pollution and complies with relevant legislation, industry standards and codes of practice.

TransGrid's EMS is certified under the international standard, AS/NZS ISO 14001:2016. An EMS is part of an organisation's management system used to develop and implement its environmental policy and manage its environmental aspects.

TransGrid's EMS has been designed to meet the commitments of its environment policy by identifying and assessing environmental risks, and where reasonable and practicable, implementing controls to avoid or limit these risks.

The [HSE Documents](#) page provides you access to the:

- > Environment Policy
- > Environmental Management System Framework
- > Environmental procedures
- > Environmental work instructions
- > Environmental forms



3. Significant environmental aspects

The significant environmental aspects were updated in 2016, as part of our two yearly review of the key environmental risks for the business. TransGrid's significant environmental aspects are:



- > Bushfire caused by insufficient clearing of easement (on easements) and off-easement trees causing arcing and significant bushfire.



- > Historical and legacy issues of inappropriate disposal and discovery of hazardous materials (PFAS, lead, asbestos)



- > Failure of employee or Contractor to adhere to Conditions of Approval, legislative requirements or Environmental Assessment Framework during construction activities

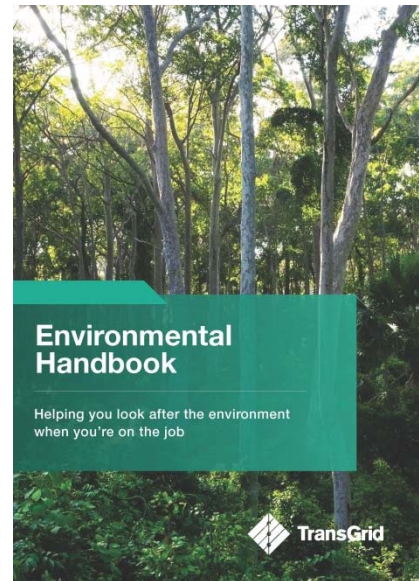
For further information on these significant environmental aspects, please refer to the [Register of Significant Environmental Aspects 2018](#) document.

4. Managing environmental impacts

TransGrid has developed an [Environmental Assessment Framework \(EAF\)](#) to streamline the way we assess our activities. The framework replaced the old Environmental Rules procedures.

One of the key components of the EAF is the use of Environmental checklists for maintenance work activities. These checklists are used to assess the environmental impacts of TransGrid's exempt development activities. There are [three environmental checklist templates](#). Refer to the work instruction '[Preparation and Approval of Environmental Checklists](#)' for guidance.

TransGrid has developed an Environmental Handbook which helps you understand the ways you can mitigate your potential environmental impacts. There is also a suite of [environmental procedures](#) which set out processes for environmental management of key activities for the business.



5. Benefits of improved environmental performance

The benefits of improved environmental performance are:

- > Minimise environmental impact
- > Reduce waste
- > Reduce energy costs
- > Make the most of all available resources
- > Improve corporate image, performance, and profit
- > Improve compliance
- > Increase employees' understanding of the importance of environmental concerns and the extent of their own, individual actions

6. Responsibilities and accountabilities

In our EMS we have developed a HSE RACI, which sets out the responsibilities and accountabilities for the business and environmental procedures which have specific responsibilities and accountabilities addressed.

As a minimum all workers must:

- > Comply with the requirements in all relevant environmental documents related to their works.
- > Speak up if you think an environmental document is missing or cannot be followed, something appears to be wrong, you are not sure what to do or something could be improved.
- > Discuss environmental risks and hazards when performing the pre-work risk assessment (PWRA).
- > Immediately report environmental incidents to your Team Leader/Manager.

All team leaders and managers must:

- > Understand environmental risks and legal requirements relevant to your area of operations
- > Check there are specific procedures and instructions for your workers to effectively manage environmental risks
- > Ensure environmental documents are accessible to your workers

- > Check your workers have adequate supervision, training and resources to comply with procedures and instructions
- > Follow appropriate contingency plans for environmental emergencies
- > Consider, and if appropriate, investigate all reported environmental concerns

7. Importance of conforming to the requirements of the environmental management system

Conforming to the requirements of an EMS is important because they:

- > help reduce an organisation's impact on the environment while improving operating efficiency.
- > process, review, and improve an organisation's environmental goals, while analysing long-term and short-term environmental impact – as well as how the company is meeting legal requirements.
- > create programs that will help the company meet targets and track and measure the results.
- > improve employee awareness and competence in environmental issues.
- > allow companies to continuously make improvements to their sustainability efforts.

8. Consequences of not meeting requirement of the EMS

Departing from the applicable EMS requirements can lead to the disciplinary process or for serious deviations, fines and penalties of up to \$5 million and/or seven years imprisonment.

9. Further information

For further information on our EMS, contact the [Environment Team](#).