

# Environmentally Sensitive Area program

## INFORMATION SHEET

***The goal of sustainable development is to meet our current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Western Power is committed to sustainable development through innovative environmental initiatives, and engaging the community in projects that are aligned with our business values.***

### **Environmentally Sensitive Area program**

Western Power's Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) program, which started in 1996, addresses environmental issues such as rare flora and fauna, threatened ecological communities, biosecurity threats such as dieback, weeds and diseases, and more recently, organic farms.

This program ensures Western Power employees and contractors are made aware of special environmental requirements at worksites, to comply with environmental legislation and stakeholder requirements.

When new electricity infrastructure traverses environmentally sensitive areas, Western Power includes appropriate management strategies in the project's environmental management plan. Once the electricity supply network is operational, the area of conservation value will be included in the program.



*Threatened ecological community near Western Power's Cannington Substation.*

Western Power protects environmentally sensitive areas through a proactive management system that ensures:

- all areas are documented in Western Power's electronic mapping system that is used for project and maintenance planning;
- work procedures are developed to define the special requirements for the area;
- relevant power poles and, where appropriate, entry points to the area are signposted with reflective green and white signs. This is a visual reminder to Western Power people and contractors that specific environmental considerations and/or precautions need to be observed before, during and after maintenance works on electricity infrastructure located within environmentally sensitive areas; and
- details of the specific environmental issue, its location, maps, photos and the site procedures, are included in Western Power's environmental management system.



The aim of the ESA program is to protect the natural environment and social surroundings, and preserve biodiversity for the benefit of current and future generations.

Western Power is committed to achieving high standards of environmental care and will work with stakeholders to minimise the affects on the surrounding environment.

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