

Fresh approach for bushfire safety

Friday, November 4

The SA Country Fire Service (CFS) and SA Power Networks are committed to community safety and are urging the public to ensure they have a Plan B this fire danger season.

CFS Regional Operations Staff Officer Brenton Hastie said during a bushfire, power can be one of the first resources to be disrupted.

“If your plan is to stay and defend your property you need to have an alternative power and water source to ensure you have firefighting capabilities when services are disrupted,” he said.

“We also remind people to have a battery powered radio to keep up to date with information as mobile phone networks and the internet can also be interrupted by bushfires.”

SA Power Networks is required by legislation to undertake vegetation clearance to ensure community safety, with bushfire mitigation being one of its key drivers.

During Bushfire Action Week, Crafers Primary School, a high bushfire risk school in the Adelaide Hills, has been chosen as the venue to launch a new educational video that is designed to help educate the public about managing the risk of trees around powerlines.

The DVD stars Trev the Tree who co-exists in harmony with his friend Stan the Stobie and tells the story about caring for him and his mates under powerlines.

“We have taken an innovative and fresh approach to highlight the importance of bushfire safety, vegetation management and appropriate species selection under powerlines,” said Paul Roberts from SA Power Networks.

“Up to 40 per cent of power outages can be attributed to interaction between powerlines and vegetation. This interaction can play a significant role in the potential for fire starts in bushfire prone areas,” said Paul.

Media Opportunity: Crafers Primary School – 10am SA Power Networks and CFS spokespeople, including a CFS tanker and SA Power Networks vehicle visiting the school.

For more information please contact the CFS Media line on 08 8212 9849.

