



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Review of Broadmarsh Fire**

TasNetworks is conducting a review following the fire at Broadmarsh on Monday.

A contractor working on TasNetworks' behalf was using a small amount of explosives underground to excavate rock, in order to replace a condemned power pole.

The pole's foundations were disturbed by blasting, causing it to lean significantly. The power-lines sagged onto vegetation and ignited a grass fire.

The Tasmania Fire Service has investigated the incident, and concluded the contractor was still allowed to blast underground. He didn't breach any fire ban rules.

TasNetworks' Head of Network Operations, Jason King, said the business routinely reviews all incidents for possible learning and improvement.

"Safety's our top priority. We take extra safety measures and restrict our activities during Total Fire Bans," Mr King said.

"While this incident didn't involve any fire ban rule breaches, and the contractor was allowed to use underground blasting, we understand some Tasmanians' concerns.

"Despite the findings of the TFS investigation, we'll be reviewing the incident, as well as work practices under Total Fire Ban conditions," he said.

TasNetworks personnel were not present at the Broadmarsh incident, and don't use explosives themselves. All such work is performed by contactors, on TasNetworks' behalf.

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