



ATTACHMENT 15

Very Large Airtanker Project Victoria 2010

VLAT-Project Operations Program

Decision Making Matrix

Process

Identification of Opportunity for Potential Use

- Normal request process (IC request via chain of command to SDO).
- SDO request for deployment after consultation with Area Controller.
- State Fire Controller request for deployment after consultation with Area Controller.

Deployment of the VLAT must be approved by the State Fire Controller (or Delegate) where appointed or by agreement between Chief Officers of CFA and DSE.

If any check box is not ticked (item not accomplished), proceeding with the dispatch must only proceed after being satisfied that safety of the operation will not be compromised.

A tick inside the box means all facets of the required statement are accomplished.

An N/A placed in the box indicates that this does not apply to this specific operation but a comment is to why N/A must be provided.

All required personnel in VLAT operations, shall meet the personnel qualifications and training specified in VLAT Operations Program Manual.

Deployment priority

Deployment priority to assist in the protection of:

- d) Life/property
- e) Assets
- f) Forests

Strategy priority

Strategy priority predicated on deployment priority:

- a) Initial attack support.
 - 1) Direct Attack
 - 2) Indirect Attack – (i.e. laying retardant behind a backburn or beside housing to reduce fire intensity)
- b) Extended attack. (failure of initial attack, sustained operations)
 - 1) Direct Attack
 - 2) Indirect Attack

Evaluation and effectiveness determination priority

- a) Forest
- b) Woodland
- c) Grassland
- d) Interface

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Decision process for DEPLOYMENT Bomber 391

		Check	Comments
Deployment Decision			
1	iv IC request via chain of command to State Duty Officer <i>or</i> v SDO request for deployment after consultation with Field Managers or Area Operations Controller (when appointed) <i>or</i> vi State Fire Controller or Chief Officer request for deployment after consultation with Field Managers or Area Operations Controller (when appointed).		
2	Requested use falls within target and strategy priority parameters (see above).		
3	Approval from State Fire Controller or both agencies obtained.		
State Agency Commander/State Duty Officer			
4	IMT Strategy (or Incident Action Plan for Extended Attack) identifying use of VLAT prepared in consultation with incident AOM.		
5	Capacity to work safely including maintaining firefighter and civilian safety in forest and interface environments and avoid dropping suppressant/retardant on houses is understood.		
6	Suppressant / retardant type stated and approved by IC and SFC.		
Mission Checklist (State Airdesk)			
7	AIIMS Air Operations Unit structure established for duration of flight/s and relevant roles filled by authorised personnel.		
8	Clear Communications Plan prepared and communicated to VLAT Coordinator - a Fire CTAF is established.		
9	Presence of on-site incident AAS confirmed .		
10	Clear communications with on-ground resources in place with the AAS.		
11	Weather briefing obtained, VMC conditions can be maintained during flight and/or at least during drop runs.		
12	Flight following and Agency Aeronautical Procedures are established .		
VLAT Coordinator			
13	Avalon take off and Incident on-site wind conditions are within VLAT and Lead plane parameters.		
14	Approval of proposed mission obtained from VLAT pilot and Lead plane pilot.		

Signature approval block			
15	State Fire Controller	Name	Date
16	State Duty Officer	Name	Date
17	State Duty Officer.	Name	Date

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