



COMPOSITE UTILITY POLES

Business Case Assessment v Timber Poles

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Final – September 2026

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Document purpose & Contents

Purpose

This report assesses the business cases for the adoption of composite fibre poles, as an alternative to traditional timber poles for electricity distribution infrastructure, by using a whole-of-life lifecycle costing methodology, based on Net Present Value (NPV) and Equivalent Annual Cost (EAC) analysis, to compare the alternatives on a like-for-like basis.



1. Executive Summary



2. Methodology



3. Global Assumptions



4. Business Case 1 – Regional New Line



4.1. Assumptions



4.2. NPV and EAC Analysis



4.3. Sensitivity Analysis



5. Business Case 2 – Urban High Risk



5.1. Assumptions



5.2 NPV and EAC Analysis



5.3. Sensitivity Analysis



6. Recommendation

1.Executive Summary



Executive Summary

This business case assessment uses a whole-of-life lifecycle costing methodology that estimates all capital, maintenance, reliability, replacement and environmental costs over an 80-year horizon, discounts those cash flows to present value, applies residual value adjustments, and converts the results to Equivalent Annual Cost (EAC) to compare pole technologies with different service lives on a consistent basis.

The following two separate business cases were considered.

- Regional New Line Construction
- Urban High Risk Replacement

The results from both business cases rank composite fibre poles above the other alternative timber options.

