
Re: Clarification on FireSafe EFD unit service and battery life

From Andrew Walsh <andrew.walsh@ind-technology.com>

Date Mon 2025-09-15 7:54 AM

To Shan, Johnny <JOshan@powercor.com.au>

Cc Caitlin Courtot <caitlin.courtot@ind-technology.com>

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Hi Johnny,

Apologies for the delay in coming back to you, and I hope you're doing well.

To confirm your two queries:

- **Service Life of FireSafe EFD Units:** The design intent is for a 15-year service life, aligned to the EDPR modelling horizon. The units are based on industrial-grade computer components and are housed in a clean, dry environment, which underpins their ability to operate reliably over this timeframe under normal field conditions. That said, Powercor may elect to run the units beyond the 15 years, depending on asset management strategy and observed field performance.
- **Battery Life:** The FireSafe EFD battery's function is limited to providing power for an orderly shutdown and transmission of a last-gasp message in the event of an outage. For the remainder of the service life, the battery sits in a fully charged state. The battery chemistry is typically rated for around 10 years of life when used in a regular cycling application. Because the EFD places the battery under minimal duty, it is expected to remain serviceable across the full 15-year unit life without requiring programmed mid-life replacement. Instead, it will be more prudent to replace batteries as required or on an as-needed basis at end of life, rather than undertaking a programmed replacement at mid-span. Battery health can be monitored remotely from each unit, giving early visibility in the event of a degraded battery.

Appreciate the continued collaboration adding Caitlin from our team also.

Kind Regards,

Andrew Walsh

Chief Operating Officer

(+61) 400 663 714 | andrew.walsh@ind-technology.com

From: Shan, Johnny <JOshan@powercor.com.au>
Sent: Saturday, 6 September 2025 4:03 PM
To: Andrew Walsh <andrew.walsh@ind-technology.com>
Subject: Clarification on FireSafe EFD unit service and battery life

This email originated from EXTERNAL

Hi Andrew,

Hope you are doing well.

During our meeting on 14 August 2025, you mentioned that the battery used in the FireSafe EFD units is expected to last longer than five years. As you know, we referenced a five-year battery life in our EDPR submission.

We're currently reviewing all input data used in the EFD business case as part of the EDPR submission, with a view to updating it where necessary. To assist with this, could you please confirm the following:

1. What is the expected service life of the FireSafe EFD unit?
2. What is the expected battery life of these units?

It would be greatly appreciated if you could get back to us by the end of **9 September 2025**.

Thanks again for your support.

Kind regards,

Johnny Shan MIEAust CPEng NER

Asset Data and Lines Manager | Network Asset Management

CitiPower Pty Ltd & Powercor Australia Ltd
Level 7, 40 Market Street Melbourne VIC 3000
Locked Bag 14090 Melbourne VIC 8001
citipower.com.au | powercor.com.au
M +61 498 007 091 | **E** joshan@powercor.com.au