Today at noon, Alejandra Ferrer, Antonio J Sanz and Josep Marí—the administration's president, environment councillor and interior councillor, respectively—paid a visit to the area in la Mola that was hit yesterday by fire. Firefighters were redeployed to the scene this morning to sweep the area of farmland, known as Can Puig, where flames were reported shortly after ten p.m. last night.

Councillor Marí said the effort was carried out with the help of 6 CiF firefighters, 2 crew members of the Balearic forestry service and 15 Civil Protection volunteers. Each group had its own pickup, and in the case of the CiF fire brigade, they had two fire engines as well. Local law enforcement was also on hand, as were officers of la Savina's Policia Portuària. Crews had controlled the blaze by 12 midnight; three hours later, it was declared totally extinguished. Roughly three hectares of farmland were burned.

The Guardia Civil will now initiate an investigation, though early evidence suggests a lamp post was possibly the cause of the flames. President Ferrer announced she'd wait for confirmation of such causation before “holding Endesa, who are responsible for maintaining this part of la Mola's electric grid, to account for the damages”. Ferrer indicated she would also ask the power company to perform a check of the entire installation to ensure that “something as dangerous as what we had last night in la Mola doesn't happen again”.

Ferrer gave thanks to emergency response teams for their fast action: “Despite strong winds and the absence of light”—a fact she said had ruled out any air intervention—“our team of firefighters and volunteers was able to win this fight. We'd be looking at an entirely different set of circumstances had the flames reached the forest”.

No homes were evacuated as a result of the blaze. Ferrer thanked residents of the area for their cooperation.

1 August 2019

Communication department
Consell de Formentera