

SUBMISSION

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NO. 102

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES COMMITTEE

May 21st, 2007

The Executive Officer,
E. & N.R. Committee,
Parliament House,
East Melbourne. 3002

INQUIRY into INPACT of PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES on
Bushfires in VICTORIA.

TERMS of REFERENCE:

1. Lack of on ground knowledge of geographical areas is appalling. The powerful COMPUTER EXPERTS who put their blanket power over FIRE MANAGEMENT – should be compelled to do on ground exchange programmes, for at least 12 months.
2. What prescribed burning? Haven't seen any smoke over the township of Heyfield this AUTUMN. No codes of practice in this area.
3. **PERSONAL IMPACT:** I challenge the Committee to find any fire victim
Fauna “ in the recent fires, that have suffered as much as my family.
Flora “ 80 Angus breeders – perished in the 4 hr fire storm Dec 14th
Financial “ 100 calves and 80 cows – missing presumed Perished/burnt to death in steep terrain. Searching to no avail.
30 km of fencing burnt.
1100 acres of mixed species timber – incinerated.
900 acres of pasture burnt.
Tanks, stockyards – burnt to the ground
Wind damage to other structures
Eagles, kangaroos were blinded by radiant heat.
found perished

RESULT: 50 head of cattle left. Our livelihood shattered.

4. Report to PUBLIC.
5. The current legislative and regulatory arrangements – were instigated by the CAIN/KIRNER Government. Their left wing green philosophy has ruined the flora and fauna of Victoria. Every DSE office should have a public meeting at night, especially for freeholders abutting public land, to plan and exchange burning practice in general.

6. Brilliant management.
7. " "
8. Agency availability during the December fire in our area was nil. The DSE were in the area 5 days prior – and very shy about returning after. THE COMPUTER EXPERTS – sent hundreds of personnel and masses of equipment to the Thomson Dam. Thus, they left us to the ravages of four fire fronts. NO air cover - Nothing.
9. Excellent idea.
10. Your current CLIMATE CHANGE excuse – is just an excuse. Listen to the local farmers and Mountain Cattlemen. They know more about the CLIMATE CHANGE as they are born to the knowledge of CLIMATE IMPACT. Left to the text book knowledge of the DSE COMPUTER EXPERTS – good-bye to another 1/3 of our bushland next summer.
11. Excuse Me! The DSE and especially PARKS personnel are the ones that need ADDITIONAL MEASURES – not CFA, SES, MCAV, Red Cross, and Shires. The COMPUTER EXPERTS need a rounded education. They need to have a qualification in a trade skill – to give them a sense of the practical.
12. Answered No 5
13. As Executive Officer, I asked you Sir – to be aware, of the environmental destruction caused by rock falls and landslides on Feb 24th '07 which occurred in the Licola area – and changed the face of our farm at "PRIMROSE GAP" – LICOLA, with erosion, and creek courses damaged beyond repair. ALL- the ongoing result of the Dec. fires.

I remain,
Yours faithfully



Mrs PATRICIA A. COLEMAN

*Reference 3 Seemingly the personal impact of your fire mismanagement was not listed WHY???