

Air pollution Inquiry>

[REDACTED]

Organisation Name:
Your position or role:

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

I would like to point out the air pollution that comes from people heating their homes with wood fires. I'm an asthmatic and for people like me breathing in smoke in the air gives me an asthma attack. if people did the math they would probably find that alternative forms of heating such as gas and reverse cycle air conditioners are more cost effective anyway. I realize money is tight for many people but government incentives to swap heating types would help. wood fires contribute to air pollution in other ways. I live in the country and the amount of people gathering wood illegally is phenomenal. they drop live trees, even though its against the law they drop dead trees. competition for wood means that in a winter season there can be areas of forest that loose up to 100 trees. i used to live in toongabbie and out my back door was protected ironbark forest this was track 37 where I walked almost daily. the dse stuffed up one year and track 32 was supposed to be available for firewood collection and who ever put the signs up put them on 37. the forest that had survived a bushfire and was regenerating was decimated by firewood collectors. I complained to the dse and their first response was to post another firewood sign. I then contacted my local member and then things started to happen signs went up declaring the forest protected. People still knocked over the protected signs, i would go walking and there would be a person dropping a tree and chopping it up for firewood, other times there would be sawdust from a dropped tree having been chain sawed up. Illegal tree dropping for firewood didn't just happen one year it happened every firewood collection season. My point is we loose vital habitat and carbon storing oxygen producing forest because of firewood collection, if anyone with a lung condition tries to go for a walk outside in winter they have to find somewhere away from civilization. My dog had pneumonia which she survived but she had severe breathing difficulty whenever a fire started up. in winter I could only let her outside briefly in the morning and at night and then for a while at lunch time and sometimes the dreaded fires would start up while she was still outside and id have to rush out and get her in and just a whiff of smoke and she would be in respiratory distress probably till the next morning. seriously for people with wood fires there is an impost too. Owning and fueling a chainsaw, taking the trailer out and collecting wood, if you are in the minority and do the right thing scrounging through a very limited resource of wood already on the ground must take forever. It seems that there has been a law for ever about not dropping dead trees, i can name two people who have fires and the only way they bother getting firewood is to drop a substantial tree. Smokers are not allowed to smoke near food places, children's playgrounds. yet I would like to point out that the smoke from all the wood fires exposes us all to quite substantial air pollution. thanks for your time [REDACTED]

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]