

Submission Number: NND.001.00560

Submission Of: Zoran Panzich

Your Details

Email address:

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Preferred means of contact: Email

What is your submission based on? I am making this submission based on my personal situation

What was your personal situation in relation to the 2019-20 Bushfires?

Where do you live? Manjimup. WA. 6258.

Your Submission

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response worked well?

Volunteers who fought the bushfires.

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response didn't work well?

The slow response of the Federal Government.

In your experience, what needs to change to improve arrangements for preparation, mitigation, response and recovery coordination for national natural disaster arrangements in Australia?

People who clear about 50 metres around buildings should be encouraged not fined as happens in some areas which promote Greens policies.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the Royal Commission?

Do you agree to your submission being published? Yes I agree to my submission being published in my name

The Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements

20 April 2020

The Greens have much to answer in light of the Eastern States Bushfires. All the areas which the Greens protested over and saved, have been burnt! If it was not for the Greens the authorities would have done more and there would have been less fuel for a fire. It is much better to fight fire which has metre high flames than one which has 10 metre high flames. The smaller flames can happen when the forest fuel is low and when the fuel is high, as was the case in the Eastern States Bushfires, bigger flames are created. In the Southern hemisphere it is known that the bush litter gathers naturally at about a rate of a tonne per hectare per year. Most of the bush had not been burnt for about 30 years. About 11 million hectares were burnt in the Bushfires, there was about 330million tonnes of forest fuel to burn! No wonder embers flew. There were 33 lives lost in the Bushfires along with about 3000 homes and about a billion wildlife. It is time this Royal Commission came down with a recommendation that the Greens, leaders down, be charged with murder and destruction of property. If the Greens had not promoted their 'lock up the bush' policy with vigor - with such memorable promotions such as wilderness areas, national parks and forests - in the late 1980s and in the 1990s and Governments not taken heed of the non-environmentalists Greens, the heavy Bushfires to have happened to extent they did. It was this promotion of policies which resulted in the high bush fuel loads, therefore the responsibility for the bushfires belongs to the Greens, all of them are implicated. Authorities in the 1970s and up to mid-1980s regularly undertook fuel reduction programmes.(Anything could have been improved but not the wholesale destruction so the Greens could prevail). Under the Greens programme entry into the bush was forbidden, and while the bush was left alone the fuel loads built up to the extent that it was saved to burn better later! By not having a control lever to reduce fuel, the authorities were playing into Greens' hands and singing from the Greens' song sheet.

I remember, in the 1990s, the WA Greens organiser Peter Robertson, claiming that 'the community supported' the Greens. What is supported now? The community must be outraged by what occurred in the Eastern States. Do the Greens have any community support? What is the relevance of the Greens?

Yes, it was vital for former Premier Dr Geoff Gallop to win, so Greens' preferences were sought and got. To get community support the Greens claimed the bush was being 'over cut or raped'. All such assertions in light of the Eastern States Bushfires, were incorrect but in the late 1990s Greens were riding high everywhere. So high that it took the Eastern States Bushfires to silence them. To this date no Green has said anything about the Bushfires but prefer to comment on the Prime Minister's slow reaction to the Bushfires.

That is what needs to happen now - without the Greens - and the Aborigines had it about correct and they had no input from Greens. Aborigines regularly burnt the bush - cool burns - and the were no losses including animals. Reduce the fuel loading and you reduce the intensity of the fire!

The Greens knew one way and that was to 'lock' up the bush. That only added to the problem. But promoted things to burn better later. Those fuel loads need to be reduced! No

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Greenie will do anything which goes against the Green policy to 'lock up the bush' such as reducing the fuel loads.

I remember in the 1990s the Greens organised for layabouts to stay in trees. While there were people in the trees, the authorities could not fall anything. Such practises were promoted and applauded by Greens. Platforms were placed in trees. Protesters would stay in trees for a length of time. Platforms were a tactic used by Greens to draw attention to what they were protesting about.

When timbermen were going about their lawful business in the bush, the Greens harassed and impeded their progress such as putting sugar into petrol for engines. The worst were the thumb locks. Police had a job to remove persons from the thumb locks. Patiently the police removed the locks.

Overall the Greens were no good to the environment which they claimed to be protecting. The way to reduce forest fuel is to listen to Aborigines, not Greens. Also, a 50 or 60 metre exclusion zone needs to be promoted around buildings, people should not be fined as happens in some areas which promote Green policies.

In WA the forests have been locked up for about 30 years. Forests burn better when they have been left for a while! We are waiting for lightening to strike and we could easily have a situation like the Eastern States.

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