

**Submission Number: NND.001.00668**

**Submission Of:**

**Your Details**

Email address:  
Phone:  
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? Bega Valley (A)

**Your Submission**

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response worked well?  
ABC SE continuous coverage.  
Helicopter bombing.

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response didn't work well?  
Slow response by govt. in obtaining sufficient resources I.e. completely underestimated the scale of this disaster. People, equipment etc. Over reliance on a small group of volunteers in RFS.

In your experience, what needs to change to improve arrangements for preparation, mitigation, response and recovery coordination for national natural disaster arrangements in Australia?  
We need a much bigger pool of equipment and people ready to respond rapidly to even the smallest of fires in heavily forested areas.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the Royal Commission?  
We were completely surrounded by fires, but weren't directly threatened, luckily. Along with many others in this area we lost 2 weeks of our lives, living in fear, Hypervigilance and inability to breathe outside. Lack of adequate supplies of groceries and fuel which was rightfully reserved for emergency vehicles. I have been suffering ongoing respiratory problems since the fires, despite wearing a P2 mask outside and staying inside mostly. Now diagnosed with asthma and on a preventative. I consider we are luckier than many in our area who have also suffered loss of their homes, livelihoods and lives. However being in the only unburnt area on the south coast makes me worried that next time it'll be us. We need to take drastic action to address climate change immediately.

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