

Submission Number: NND.001.00713

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? Sydney

Your Submission

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response worked well?
In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response didn't work well?
The fact that climate change has been politicised hampered bushfire responses. Federal and State Governments have failed to properly prepare for climate risks because of an ideological stance that ignores climate science. Climate risks have been removed from government reports and climate bodies have been de-funded or closed. This stopped properly funded bushfire and health services in rural and metropolitan areas.
In your experience, what needs to change to improve arrangements for preparation, mitigation, response and recovery coordination for national natural disaster arrangements in Australia?
Climate risks need to be front and centre of all emergency preparedness plans for bushfires. State and Federal governments must slash greenhouse gas pollution as per the recommendations of the IPCC.
Coal and gas extraction must be phased out - not increased.
A federal, independent, non-political body run by scientists, such as a Climate Commission shut down by Tony Abbott, should be created to monitor and plan for future climate risks.
Anything less is negligence.
Is there anything else you would like to tell the Royal Commission?
The Morrison government is dangerous and reckless in its failure to prepare for climate risks. It continues to favour the needs of the mining lobby over the safety and well being of their own citizens. Its disregard for any jobs that aren't in the mining sector, such as tourism and services, disgusts me, as does its uncaring attitude to our natural environment.
While I live in Sydney, the smoke and ash from the fires caused me to become mentally depressed. The deaths of hundreds of thousands of our native creatures and decimation of our natural areas affected me greatly and continues today. It makes me fear for my future and my children's future. My children say they won't start a family because of the climate, and yet this government refuses to accept there's a problem and refuses to prepare for the worst climate scenarios - merely because of political expediency.
It's wrong to suggest that only those in areas that burnt were directly affected by these unprecedented fires. Everyone in wider Sydney was affected by choking smoke and ash.
The CBD of Sydney was turned to a dark hell scape, with ferries and other services cancelled, businesses closing, people forced indoors and an eerie, apocalyptic pall cast over the entire city. People couldn't sleep with their windows open, and those without air conditioning, had difficulty sleeping at all because of the heat. Our houses and cars were covered in ash which couldn't be washed because of water restrictions.
Do you agree to your submission being published? Yes I agree to my submission being published anonymously