



Mrs. P. McEubben 10/6/03

Committee Secretary

House Elect. Committee

on the recent Australian bushfires.

Canberra.

2/6/03

Sir,

At the time of the devastating bushfires I wrote to The Hon. Wilson Tuckey M.P. regarding the neglect of this area, the lack of bushfire control.

There has been very little hazard reduction over the past years in the area of Boodi National Park and the Putty Beach camping area and the surrounding bushland. There are many dead trees throughout the area that could become a fire hazard. I feel a separate body, not the National Parks and Wildlife Service, should take over the bushfire protection management.

I would also like to submit a suggestion that where there are homes in bushland areas eucalypt gums, many feet high and in large numbers about homes should not be allowed as they explode so violently in a fire the showers of sparks spread over a great distance thus causing greater fire areas and destroying homes.

Another danger in weather conditions that cause these eucalypts to become so dangerous in fire season is where householders fill their gardens with these trees up to the border of neighbouring homes. There should be some control to ensure this type of hazard doesn't occur.

Trees that have been allowed to grow beside roads in bush areas and come up to the bitumen edge of the roadway should be removed by councils to eliminate the danger of burning trees falling onto the roadway blocking

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access to fire authority vehicles getting through to the fire areas.

After seeing flames and smoke from the Brooklyn and Glenore fires from my home and the carnage in Camberra I hope my submissions get some thought given to them.

They are by no means the whole answer to eradicating the problems you have to study but are sent with the sincere hope we may never see the anguish and suffering of Australian homemakers again in bushfires.

Sincerely yours  
Pat McEubbin.