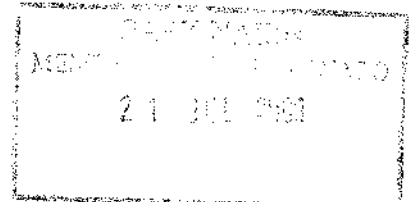


11. 7. 03

Mr. Gary Nairn
Chairman - Inquiry of the Select
Committee on the Recent Australian
Bush fires



Dear Mr. Nairn

Re: ① Tax Incentives for Volunteer
Fire Fighters - Imputation Credits

② Land Management Training
for N. P. W. S. Employees in the
field.

③ When asked about my
incentives or subsidies to
farmers for volunteers fighting
long periods in Category 44 Fires
- I replied Tax Relief. Would
Imputation Credits be a way
to do this? Few farmers have
the benefits of investments &
Fire Imputation Credits would
be a good way to reward them.

2

When talking amongst themselves payment was definitely out. Farmers will always go freely to fight on each other's lands. This may, however, be a way to indirectly remunerate the volunteers & ease tensions between volunteers fighting fires next to highly paid employees.

(2) I have been trying to push for Land Management Training for N.P.W.S. staff through the Catchment Management Board. I need a blank slate mostly.

(3) Co-operation & free exchange of ideas can only improve relations.

The programme would be compulsory for 6-12 months for outdoor employees.

It should include :-

- (a) Dog Trapping & feral animal Experience
- (b) Fencing & animal husbandry
- (c) Fire management including a course in fire control etc by the Fire Control Officer.
- (d) Weed identification & control
- (e) Experience in large equipment handling & all small equipment too.

The training to be supervised on Farms of Volunteer fire fighters, but paid for by N.P.W. S/Govt.

This would be the best incentive for young men to join volunteer fire brigades, which seem to be languishing now. It ~~could~~ also
could

4

improve contact & relations
with N.P. W. S.

Good luck with your enquiry
we hope for some results
but it was, at least, for the
'forgotten race' to talk to
H. Ps.

Yours faithfully

Beverly Allen.

S. S. C. M. B.

Aq/En. Centre State C.W.A.