



5th May 2003

Committee Secretary,
House Select Committee on recent Aust. bush fires,
Dept. of the House of Representatives,
Parliament House,
Canberra 2600,
A.C.T.

Dear Sir,

I wish to submit my design for an aerial fire fighting system for consideration by the House Select Committee on the recent bush fires in the 2002 - 03 fire season.

The system is designed to be used with the C - 130 Hercules aircraft with the R.A.A.F's 36 and 37 Squadrons based at Richmond N.S.W. With the capability of being used across Australia and to be operational 24 hours. The design covers all recommendations covered in the N.S.W. Joint Select Committee on Bush Fires for the use of heavy aircraft in aerial fire fighting. The system is used in conjunction with a South Australian manufactured liquid retardant additive that has been approved for use in water catchment areas and as the additive is in liquid form mixing stations are not required as is the case for retardents currently being used.

The design itself is currently with the Rt. Hon. Robert Hill, Minister for Defence, in Canberra with the design and the systems capabilities with Emergency Management Australia and through them it has been forwarded to the Australasian Fire Authorities Council.

Should you wish to discuss this submission further or require any further information please contact me at the above address or on 0429 616 002.

Thanking You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Oates".

Alan Oates

c.c. Peter Andren, Federal Member for Calare
c.c. Andrew Stoner, Leader - National Party - N.S.W.
c.c. Olimpia Chodkiewicz - Analyst policy - National Farmers Federation.