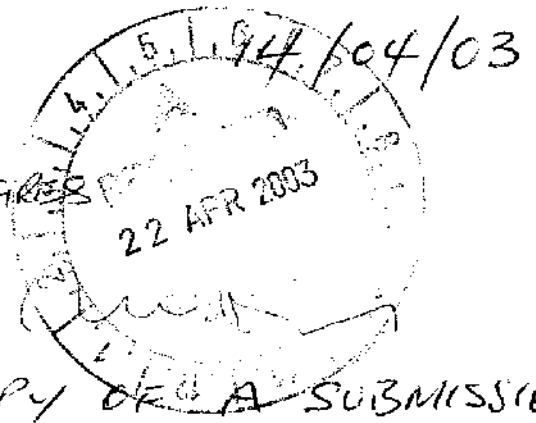


HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON THE RECENT AUSTRALIAN BUSHFIRES



DEAR SIR/MADAM,

I ENCLOSE A COPY OF A SUBMISSION

WHICH I FORWARDED TO THE RECENT NSW ENQUIRY ON BUSHFIRES.

IT SEEMS TO ME IMPORTANT THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD BE VERY WELL INFORMED WHEN IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT CONDITIONS WARRANT DECLARATION OF "TOTAL FIRE BANS". SOME OF THE RECENT BUSHFIRES APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN LIT (STUPIDLY BUT NOT MALICIOUSLY) BY PEOPLE UNAWARE OF THESE BANS.

VICTORIA HAS A GOOD SYSTEM FOR WARNING THE PUBLIC BUT NSW IS ALMOST TOTALLY INEFFECTIVE (RECENT BANS DID NOT APPEAR IN THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD FOR EXAMPLE).

MAY I SUGGEST A NATIONAL SYSTEM BE ADOPTED (I AM NOT AWARE WHAT THE OTHER STATES AND TERRITORIES ARE DOING) AND IF NECESSARY IT BE MANDATED THAT THE MEDIA CARRY THESE WARNINGS.

YOURS SINCERELY
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PETER MAYMAN

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "P. Mayman".