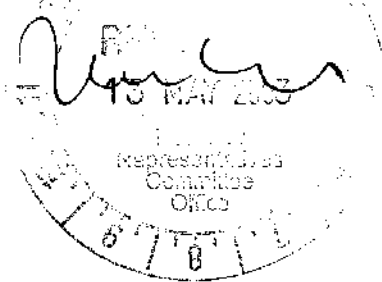


Committee Secretary
House Select Committee on the recent Australian bushfires

Submitted by: ROCK DEMARCHI.

Address: _____

Date: ____/____/2003



INQUIRY INTO THE RECENT AUSTRALIAN BUSHFIRES

Dear Sir / Madam,

MY NAME IS ROCK DEMARCHI. RESIDENT OF FALLS CREEK FOR 18 YEARS. C.F.A. CAPTAIN FOR LAST 5 YEARS.

1. FALLS CREEK C.F.A. NOT NOTIFIED OF A BACK BURNING OPERATION ON LITTLE SPION KOPJE IN FULL VIEW OF FALLS CREEK VILLIAGE. D.S.E INCIDENT CONTROL OUEHS DID NOT NOTIFY C.F.A. DEPUTY CONTROL.

D.S.E. INCIDENT CONTROL OPERATING FROM MT. BEAUTY WOULD NOT ACCEPT A WEATHER

REPORT FROM THE FIRE FRONT FROM MYSELF!
IT TOOK SIX HOURS FOR A D.S.E. EMPLOYEE
TO TRAVEL 35 KM ON MOSTLY BITUMUM
ROADS TO THE FIRE FRONT TO GIVE A MORE
SERVURE REPORT. THAN MYSELF.

ORDERED TO STOP WORK ON CONSTRUCTING A
FIRE BREAK WITH HAND TOOLS AND FRONT
END LOADER AT WALLACES HUT. I BELIEVE
THIS HUT TO HAVE A NATIONAL TRUST CLASSIFIATI
THE LIST COULD GO ON.!

NO MATTER HOW MUCH COUNTRY D.S.E
BURN OUT THEY STILL HAVE EMPLOYMENT.
IT CAME INTO FALLS CREEK AND WE
WERE FIGHTING FOR OUR FINANCIAL
SURVIVAL.

THANK-YOU.

SIGNED: Rock Re March