

Don Nott

REAL ESTATE Springwood



4th June 2003

Committee Secretary
House Select Committee on the recent Australian bushfires
Department of the House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

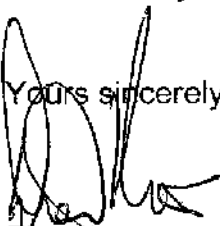
Submission by Donald William Nott, 192 Macquarie Road, Springwood 2777

1. There should be only two fire authorities in each state, metropolitan and RFS, CFA etc.
2. Land managers should not have legislative authority under the various acts to control mitigation or suppression of fires.
3. Land managers should be able to suppress or mitigate fires under the authority of the appropriate fire authority and must report all fires to the fire authority who will decide on suppression methods.
4. If land managers are notified of a risk to life and property they should be given a reasonable time to show cause what procedure or not should be adopted to minimise the risk.
5. In each district (Shire etc) a district committee made up of suppression authorities, land managers and emergency services should have authority and responsibility to decide on issues relating to mitigation, fire trail maintenance and associated works within a reasonable time.
6. If the committee cannot decide on a issue then the issue could be heard by a superior committee or the appropriate minister.
7. Land managers must be responsible for the fuel on their land, to ensure mitigation is carried out.

I know this is simplified, but after the various environmental requirements and constraints are dealt with the reduction of hazards to life and property must be controlled by the appropriate fire authority, not land managers who do not have suppression or mitigation as their core business.

The reason the community is being subject to the recent losses and cost is there are too many organisations dealing with mitigation and suppression.

Yours sincerely,



Don Nott