

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Sub Program 2.1.2**

**Question No. 141**

**Senator Fisher asked the following question at the hearing on 27 May 2009:**

What is the status of the City of Tea Tree Gully's application entitled 'City of Tea Tree Gully Strategic Bushfire Management Plan'?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

The City of Tea Tree Gully's application to develop a Strategic Bushfire Management Plan was deemed ineligible by the State Assessment Committee, chaired by the State lead agency. The City of Tea Tree Gully was advised by email of that decision by the SA Country Fire Service on 8 May 2009.

The Bushfire Mitigation Program (BMP) is intended to fund the construction, maintenance and signage of fire trails and associated accessibility measures. Under the BMP guidelines, a strategic bushfire management plan, such as that proposed by the City of Tea Tree Gully is not considered eligible for funding.

The SA State Selection Committee comprised representatives from the SA Country Fire Service, SA Fire and Emergency Services Commission and the Local Government Association. The Committee met on 28 October 2008 to consider and prioritise the BMP applications.

On 10 March 2009 the Australian Government received a submission from the South Australian Minister for Emergency Services, Mr Michael Wright MP, providing details of recommended applications. The Commonwealth Attorney-General approved the submission on 17 April 2009.

The South Australian Country Fire Service was responsible for advising applicants of the outcome of their application following the Commonwealth Attorney-General's approval of the priority list.