

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

Sub Program 2.1.2

Question No. 144

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

In regard to the City of Tea Tree Gully's application entitled 'Fire Track Upgrade – Greenwith, Adelaide SA', why did it take until 8 May 2009 for the applicant to be advised of the outcome?

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

Once the annual call for applications has closed, each State and Territory is responsible for determining the date of the State Assessment Committee meeting. The date selected takes account of the availability of Committee members and other agency priorities.

The South Australia (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 Bushfire Mitigation Program 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.