

To : Inspector general of emergency management :Tony Pearce.

I am a 48 year old university student who is currently studying Business Management at Federation University Churchill, I live at Mirboo North which was impacted by the black Saturday fires in 2009. I also worked on a clean-up crew controlling English Broom in the Alpine National Park after the 2003 Omeo fire. On both occasions it was plain to anyone who understood basic logic, that hazard reduction burning is an effective way of reducing the severity of bush-fires. In the aftermath of the Omeo Fire, it was clearly evident that due to a lack of fuel reduction burning the fire had become hot enough to kill the majority of the trees, rather than just burn the sapwood. Fuel reduction burning reducing the severity of fires is pure logic. One only needs to bend a fuel injection pipe on any motor, or reduce the fuel supply to a furnace (which is effectively what planned burns are doing) to know that fuel reduction is effective.

The argument that climate change means that fuel reduction, isn't an option is also flawed. The money can be set aside in the budget, and spent when seasonal conditions allow. The green lobby tactic of repeating a deception continuously and pretending it changes the fact that its still not true needs to be called out more often.

The reality of Australia's contribution to climate change is that our emissions from electricity generation are reducing year on year, and according to A.E.M.O,s own figures "Renewable,s will replace coal at cheapest cost" (16 July :18 The Guardian) at our current closure rate of coal generators.

In addition China and India commission over 100 500.Mw coal fired generators annually,-each with a 50 year lifespan, mitigating any benefit from prematurely closing ours.

Likewise reducing fuel reduction for pollution or other reasons is totally counter productive, and exceptionally so when reduced hazard reduction measures lead to hotter more devastating fires. (as in Omeo 2003)

Yours Kindly :Jason Pincini