



2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 19 November 2009

COMMISSION SEEKS RESPONSE TO FIRE SERVICES LEVY AND INSURANCE PAPER

The 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission is seeking responses from the public to a discussion paper on the fire services levy and property insurance.

In addition to the catastrophic loss of life, Victoria's 2009 bushfires caused widespread loss of property. Against this backdrop, the Commission is seeking views on issues related to property loss and insurance:

1. The significant funding of Victoria's fire services through the insurance-based fire services levy and options for reform.
2. The role of insurance in preparing communities for and recovering from future disasters like the Black Saturday bushfires and whether non-insurance and under-insurance are problems in Victoria.

The paper has been developed for discussion purposes only. It should not be assumed that the views expressed represent those of the Commissioners.

All responses to this paper will be considered in the development of the Commission's Final Report which is due in July 2010.

Any submission already lodged with the Commission dealing with insurance or the fire services levy, will be considered along with responses to the discussion paper. However, previous submitters are welcome to respond directly to the questions in the paper or raise additional issues.

Responses close on **Monday, 21 December 2009** and must be accompanied by a coversheet.

The paper is available at www.royalcommission.vic.gov.au or hard copies can be obtained by emailing enquiries@royalcommission.vic.gov.au or calling 1800 243 650.

Responses should be emailed to enquiries@royalcommission.vic.gov.au. Responses larger than five megabytes should be mailed to:

Response
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