

Dear Prime Minister

Australian disaster grants for extreme bushfires in Victoria

In regard to my letter to you of 20 January 2015, it appears your written assurance that there would be a response from the Attorney General has not been delivered upon ([Att. 1](#)).

All Australian States and Territories could be required to pay tens of billions of dollars because of an extreme bushfire warning disaster in Victoria ([Att. 2](#)). With the Victorian Government's extreme bushfire warnings partly based on 9km/h instead of 24km/h, thousands of lives are at risk (["Vics a misfit in extreme fire grants" Att. 3](#)).

To clarify the "...thousands of lives...":

1. **Mr John Brumby**, the former Labor Party Premier of Victoria, stated in a television interview, "...hundreds if not thousands of lives..." could have been taken in outer Melbourne suburbs on Black Saturday ([Att. 4](#)).
2. **The Victorian Emergency Management Commissioner**, the former **Minister for Environment and Climate Change** and the Victorian Opposition Leader **Mr Matthew Guy** (in his former role as Planning Minister), all responded to the publication of *Bushfire Death Trap - The Eltham Gateway*. Despite their considered responses, none of these three most senior former Victorian Government people responsible for extreme bushfire, denied the paper's main thesis; the inevitability of "...an extreme bushfire catastrophe with thousands of fatalities" ([Att. 5](#), [Att. 6](#) & [Att. 7](#)).
3. **Dr Dennis Napthine**, the former Liberal Party Premier of Victoria, recently stated in Parliament, Mr David Packham was "...probably the most experienced and expert scientist in managing fires" ([Att. 8](#)). David Packham has written that a Melbourne suburb "...is set to become an extreme bushfire catastrophe with thousands of fatalities" ([Att. 9](#)).
4. **The Prime Minister's** literary award winner Bill Gammage (for his book *The Biggest Estate on Earth- How Aborigines Made Australia*; about how the Aborigines protected species by mitigating extreme bushfire with prescribed burning), described vegetation management in Melbourne's Eltham Gateway, as "...trying to set fires, rather than prevent them" ([Att. 10](#)).

The Victorian Government's use of 9km/h instead of 24km/h, for extreme bushfire warnings, appears to place Victoria in breach of Australia's constitutional arrangements, by not "...using the best science available" ([Att. 11](#)). With the greatest respect, would you please help with this crucial matter by responding to my letter to you of 20 January 2015, as you assured me you would do in your letter of 9 February 2015 (if you have done so recently, thank you).

Yours sincerely



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Mr David Packham, Mr Roger Underwood, Mr Phil Cheney, Selected Australian media.