

## Your details

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**Title**

Dr

**First name**

Angela

**Last name**

Frimberger

## Submission details

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**I am making this submission as**

A resident in a bushfire-affected area

**Submission type**

I am making a personal submission

**Consent to make submission public**

I give my consent for this submission to be made public

## Share your experience or tell your story

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**Your story**

I live on a 25-acre block adjacent to the Lake Innes Nature REserve with my family (and our veterinary consulting business is located here as well).

We lived with fire from October 28 to mid-late November last year (it's all such a blur, I can't remember the date that we decided we were out of danger) - altogether it was at least 3 weeks.

In the end, we are all safe, and our house is OK (thanks to the heroic effects of firefighters in the NPWS as well as the RFS).

Mostly it was just smoky, messy, exhausting, and distracting, requiring us to close our business for several weeks (but our reduction in income is just short of that needed to qualify for federal government assistance). My husband and I got pretty handy at putting out spot fires with buckets, rakes and garden hoses.

However on one afternoon about two weeks into our fire journey, conditions went from severe to extreme, and the fire suddenly grew aggressive and raced up the hill toward our house. My husband and I were the only ones home, thankfully. We tossed our cat into the carrier we were keeping ready, and ran for it in the 4WD. Our driveway was blocked by fire and we went over the paddock to the neighbours' place and out their driveway. The firefighters pulled a miracle and stopped the fire 25 m from the house.

I've been afraid of bushfire the whole time I've lived here, and now I know what I've been scared of. It turns out I was right! I'm just very thankful that this never happened when my kids were small, it would have been so much harder. My oldest was away in Sydney and my youngest is a teenager on P-plates, so I could just text her to not come home and go to a friend's in town, so it was a lot less to worry about.

## **Terms of Reference (optional)**

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The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#).

### **1.1 Causes and contributing factors**

Fires have always occurred. But, clearly, climate change is the main underlying cause for the extremity of these fires.

### **1.3 Response to bushfires**

I would like to particularly congratulate and thank the NPWS firefighters.

### **1.4 Any other matters**

I would like to particularly thank and applaud the NPWS firefighters who saved our home by being on the scene when the RFS was unable to reach us because they were already stretched so thin; and both the RFS and the NPWS for keeping us feeling safe all those terrible weeks.

## **Supporting documents or images**

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