



<b>Title</b>	Ms
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<b>I am making this submission as</b>	Resident
<b>Submission type</b>	Personal
<b>Organisation making the submission (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Your position in the organisation (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Consent to make submission public</b>	Public
<b>Your story</b>	<p>I live in coffs harbour, where we were affected by thick smoke from nearby fires for weeks on end. It was a frighten time being the parent of a young toddler who has a suseptibilty to lung issues already. We were unable to let him play outside and live a normal life. We also had many friends and family who were evacutated, or worse lost homes. Anicent forests nearby that have never burnt, did. I am fearful for the plant and wildlife we may never see again or will soon become extinct. I am also concerned that this situation of hotter, long summers and generally more extreme weather is the new normal because of climate change. I fear for all our childrens futures and am sad that my son will not have the opportunity to enjoy all the natural beautiful of the amazing forests and ecosystems in this area and all over australia because of these disasters.</p> <p>I am a social worker in coffs [REDACTED] and i have also seen first hand the psycological strain as and increased anxiety these fires and concerns about climate change are having on our residents.</p>

In particular the mental health of our young people, who are loosing hope for any kind of future. I am seeing increasing suicide ideation, and depression on a daily basis for these very reasons. Then there are the increased admissions through the direct health impact of fires and smoke, climate change is a real health issue and will cost us more than we understand right now. We must do everything in our power to stop any further deforestation and we must cut carbon emission to net zero as fast as possible. This government is not working fast enough and i believe they really do not understand that there is no planet B and there is no economy or life without a healthy planet.

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**1.1 Causes and contributing factors**

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**1.2 Preparation and planning**

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**1.3 Response to bushfires**

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**1.4 Any other matters**

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**Upload files**

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