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I am making this submission as	Resident
Submission type	Personal
Organisation making the submission (if applicable)	
Your position in the organisation (if applicable)	
Consent to make submission public	Public
Your story	Impacted from the 28 th November till early February. Smoke and roads being cut early. Day 31 st December 2019. Evacuated to Malua bay beach after text from Rfs. The flames where not my major concern the smoke was so thick I wonder would I die from this. We where sheltering inside incomplete building northern end of beach. As the fire approached told to go to beach. I think in hind sight we where much better of in the building. Out of smoke and heat. The fire passed and no real direction of what to do decision to return to house. We are shocked dazed and traumatised. All people in the area are the same. We are still unaware of the scale of damage at this point To the town and surrounds and the rest of south east of Australia. I dont want to move from my home on this day.

	We have no power we hear via radio All telecommunications wil be lost later. We are staying put.
1.1 Causes and contributing factors	Drought and wind large fuel load
1.2 Preparation and planning	Batemans bay is left in disarray . No power no telecommunications . Limited generator to cope with the loss of power.  Peak population time . A mess.  Why where the generators not here , the fire had been to the north for a month. We had time for better preparation.  I had prepared why had not the appropriate authorities .
1.3 Response to bushfires	Slow . I understand scale was huge but it still was slow.
1.4 Any other matters	We need better access to communities infra structures Solar power so as not so dependent on the grid.  We need safer areas to protect ourselves. Hanging rock evacuation centre from reports was not the safest place. With fires close by. Malua bay also surrounded by fire. I left early so roads where good. People are not heros who stay they should not be encouarged to stay at all. Houses burn randomly in these events. Thank goodness more people did not die. I love the bush and the Eurobodalla coast. We need houses built to with stand fires we can not control a raging bushfire no matter what. The Nsw premier was great the prime minister was appalling we needed leader ship which he does not understand. We need continuing education on best way to respond to these disasters. We need to know that the community will be supported with bas access to power at major areas petrol banking food. I was in my own home. Tourist where stranded. The directive to leave then closing roads put people lives at risk not sure how that could be avoided but needs better planning. It son and daughter in law 3 children stuck at Ulladulla forced to return for a day they just wanted out. I felt really frustrated at the decision. The community was still in shock. Putting thousands on the road with bushfires burning in all directions was very risky. Getting the message out with not terrifying people. My elderly neighbour was sure we where all going to die and loose our houses. Seriously traumatised I think education all the time is important not just at time of event. We had been burnt out around us on the 31 st so on the 4 th whilst still some risk not as bad ,she and many others where so scared. So looking at how to deliver the information so people are more in control. We did not expect a fire truck in our street as we where aware now of the scale and felt with a big fire breal we where reasonable safe.  Better roads solar power education generators where needed.