



Title

First name

Last name

I am making this submission as

General public

Submission type

Organisation

Organisation making the submission (if applicable)

Ryde Gladesville Climate Change Action Group

Your position in the organisation (if applicable)

Consent to make submission public

Public

Your story

1.1 Causes and contributing factors

Our group of over 640 residents is greatly concerned about climate change and its effects and want to see governments at all levels take immediate and decisive action. Scientists have been calling for decades on the need to reduce our carbon emissions in all sectors of the economy. We see climate change as the primary cause for the devastating bushfires the state experienced and want to see more ambitious and practical action to reduce our carbon emissions much earlier than the 2050 target set by the government. The science tells us the length of fire season and the severity of the bushfires will only increase if action is not taken immediately.

1.2 Preparation and planning

Protection of biodiversity is paramount to a healthy environment. It is imperative, therefore, there is more comprehensive mapping of locations of endangered and threatened species and

ecological communities undertaken so they can be protected. Included in these plans must also be post fire restoration and rehabilitation guidelines, especially for vulnerable species and ecological communities.
There is no evidence that logging or grazing will reduce fire risk. The government must ensure these practices are not allowed to be undertaken in conservation areas.

1.3 Response to bushfires

There can be no more cutting of the budget for firefighters. Funding must be restored and increased if we are to keep them safe and for them to do their job effectively. It is unacceptable that funding cuts meant they didn't have the equipment and technology required to fight these fires.
Following the bushfires, recovery actions for threatened species and communities must be undertaken. These actions must include consideration of pest species, weeds, minimisation of erosion and maintaining water quality.

1.4 Any other matters

It's time the fire management techniques of Aboriginal people are acknowledged and used extensively in hazard reduction. The way it has been done in the past has proven to be inadequate and ineffective.
The loss of over a billion native animals is horrifying and totally unacceptable. Healthy and strong biodiversity means a healthier and more resilient environment and more of our native flora and fauna able to survive.

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