



“ Westleigh “

Phone [REDACTED]

28/07/2020

Bushfire Inquiry  
NSW Government

### Re Submission to Enquiry

Dear Madam/ Sir

I have been resident at the above address for 83years in our family home. Two borders are adjacent to the national park. There have been many fires involved with the property with no damage to the residence. Care has been maintained with the experience of being in the volunteer fire brigade for 20 years.

Observation in my youth noted adjacent tree foliage was at maximum 15 ft. now adjacent National Park eucalypt trees are 60 + ft.

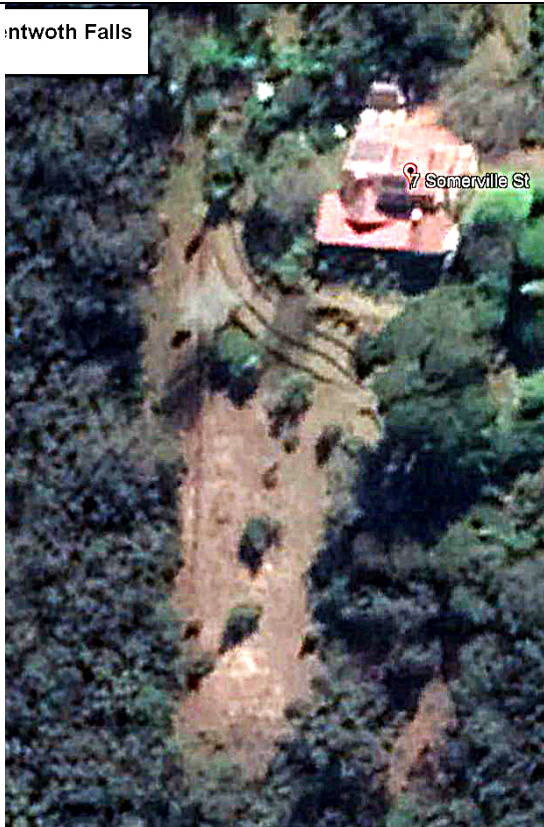
My understanding in hazard reduction protocol is that 40 meters clearance on level ground from residence and 65 meters where incline is greater than 15 degrees slope. There is no provision for either height nor denseness of foliage within this framework. At the moment I understand that sheds and erections other than the residence are not included in the protocol for required hazard reduction clearance, this I feel should be defined in a formulated edict for hazard reduction protocol,

I would appreciate that there be definite guidelines for hazard reduction to be considered and implemented to also include the height of fuel especially in view of recent experiences of last summer's fires.

Reluctance is often experienced with statutory authorities to comply with what is considered reasonable when long term residences were established in then considered safe environment and proved safely to be still intact. May I also submit that there be some form compulsion to comply with any such requirement

To illustrate the above submission I have included photographs of the above property

Twoth Falls





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Yours faithfully

Dr G.H.(Ward) Aitkens