**From:** Clive Stott **Sent:** Friday, 13 May 2016 9:14 PM  
**To:** 'EPA Enquiries (Environment)' <EPAEnquiries@environment.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Wood heater numbers

Dear EPA,

My sincere apologies, closing date for submissions was May 2013, gosh that was 3 years ago. I only know what I was told at Agfest and what I was not told, and in discussions I was not told submissions closed 3 years ago!

2021 Census submissions will most likely close this early as well.

In relation to the more detailed and meaningful  wood heating information  you provided to me (4602.0.55.01), I see the following at  <http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4602.0.55.001Explanatory%20Notes1Mar%202014?OpenDocument>

**NEXT SURVEY  
34** The ABS does not plan to conduct this survey in the future.

This is disappointing, however, the ABS hopefully might be able to offer us something when you make enquiries.

Thank you for your help.

Regards,

Clive

**From:** EPA Enquiries (Environment) [<mailto:EPAEnquiries@environment.tas.gov.au>]   
**Sent:** Friday, 13 May 2016 5:14 PM  
**To:** Clive Stott **Subject:** RE: Wood heater numbers

Dear Mr Stott,

As indicated previously the close of submissions for the 2016 Census was the 31st May 2013. This date was prior to our receipt of your suggestion to include a question on wood heater number in the 2016 Census.

In regard to your suggestion that the EPA investigate the possibility of the ABS undertaking an intermediate survey into the wood heater numbers, the EPA will contact the ABS and enquire into this possibility.

Regards

Environment Enquiries

<http://www.epa.tas.gov.au/epa>

**From:** Clive Stott   
**Sent:** Friday, 13 May 2016 3:40 PM  
**To:** EPA Enquiries (Environment)  
**Subject:** RE: Wood heater numbers

Good afternoon EPA,

Thank you for the information.

I see my suggestion for inclusion in the upcoming 2016 Census was dated 28th February. Submissions closed on the 31st May.

Did this not leave enough time?

There have been alterations here in Tas since early 2014 that could have changed the ABS figures you supply.

One, the wood heater buying splurge was still underway in March 2014.

Then we have had two more buying seasons in years to follow where the wood heating industry indicated they could not keep up with new installation.

It also appears the uncertainty of Basslink interconnector leaving the state in cricis during the cold months led to an additional increase in heater sales.

Whilst attending Agfest the ABS indicated to me if it was not included in the 2016 Census there would be oportunity for it to be included in an intermediate survey that they run.

Perhaps this is something that the EPA could investigate please?

Thank you and I look forward to your further thoughts.

Regards,

Clive Stott

**From:** EPA Enquiries (Environment) [<mailto:EPAEnquiries@environment.tas.gov.au>]   
**Sent:** Friday, 13 May 2016 2:48 PM  
**To:** Clive Stott   
**Subject:** RE: Wood heater numbers

Dear Mr Stott,

Thank you for your enquiry relating to the number of wood heaters being used  in Tasmania and the possibility of including a question relating to this issue in the upcoming Australian Census.

In regards to your question on the number of wood heaters being operated in Tasmania, the Australian Bureaux of Statistics (ABS) has released some figures on this issue. Statistics on the number of households in Tasmania using wood as the main source of energy for household heating was released by the ABS in December 2014 under the title “Environmental Issues: Energy Use and Conservation, Mar 2014” [(cat. no. 4602.0.55.001)](http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4602.0.55.001main+features1Mar%202014). According to these statistics, the number of households in Tasmania using wood was the main source of energy for household heating was estimated to be 53,900 households. This figure was qualified with a relative standard error of 8.8%. From these figures an estimate of the number of houses operating wood heaters as their primary heating sources is likely to be within a range of 49150 to 58640 households.

In regards to your suggestion that a question on wood heaters use be included in the 2016 Australian Census, a study of the ABS website was undertaken to determine the process required for making submissions about the nature and content of the 2016 Census. The ABS information indicates that interested parties were invited to make submissions in accordance with the [submission guidelines](http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/censushome.nsf/home/natureandcontentsubmissionguidelines) prior to the close of submissions on the 31 May 2013.

Consequently, the addition of a question relating to the number of installed wood heaters in Tasmania has not been initiated by the EPA Division for the 2016 Census. If an opportunity arises to submit a question on wood heater use for inclusion in a future Australian Census the EPA will consider undertaking this process.

Regards

Environment Enquiries

<http://www.epa.tas.gov.au/epa>

**From:** Clive Stott **To:** EPA Enquiries (Environment)  
**Subject:** RE: Wood heater numbers

Good afternoon EPA,

Can you advise what has happened in relation to this please?

Thank you.

Regards,

Clive Stott

**From:** EPA Enquiries (Environment) [<mailto:EPAEnquiries@environment.tas.gov.au>]   
**Sent:** Monday, 29 February 2016 11:52 AM  
**To:** Clive Stott   
**Subject:** RE: Wood heaters

Dear Mr Stott,

Thank you for your suggestion to investigate the possible inclusion of a question in the upcoming Australian Census addressing the number of operational wood heaters in Tasmania.

The EPA will contact the relevant authority and determine if an appropriate question of this nature can be added to this year’s Census questionnaire.

Regards

Environment Enquiries

<http://www.epa.tas.gov.au/epa>

**From:** Clive Stott   
**Sent:** Sunday, 28 February 2016 9:44 AM  
**To:** EPA Enquiries (Environment)  
**Subject:** Wood heaters

Good morning EPA,

We actually have no idea how many wood heaters there are installed or being used  in Tasmania.

The last lot of figures I saw was a fairly wide spread and since then many more have been installed according to the wood heating industry.

From my experience councils do not keep accurate records of all wood heater installations.

Is this something the EPA could persue through the next census?

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Clive Stott