

registered letter

5th October 2008

Mark Chladil
Fire Management Planning Officer
Tasmania Fire Service
GPO Box 1526
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear Sir,

Standard for Smoke Management / Smoke Guidelines in Tasmania.

I forwarded to the Tasmania Fire Service a copy of my submission to the Forest Protection Authority (FPA) in relation to the above subject.

On the 29/9/2008 you wrote to me saying:

Smoke Guidelines

Thankyou for forwarding to the Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) your submission to the Forest Practices Authority about guidelines for smoke management. TFS is always interested in community concerns with aspects of fire management and fire safety.

The guidelines to which you refer are being developed by the Forest Practices Authority. TFS role is to ensure that any guidelines for fire use do not increase the risk of fire escapes and consequent damage to community assets.

The issues you raise in your submission relate to the operation of other departments and broad government policy. I am sure you understand that TFS does not have a response or view on these issues other than supporting government policy.

On the same day I emailed you back with the following:

Thank you for your reply

You state that, "...TFS role is to ensure that any guidelines for fire use do not increase the risk of fire escapes and consequent damage to community assets."

a) Does the TFS have a response or view in relation to smoke management or associated health impacts at all, or just community asset protection?

b) Does the TFS have any input into government policy or guidelines in relation to planned burns and smoke management?

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(2)

I notice that you actually represented the Tas Fire Service on the Steering Committee of the Tasmanian Air Quality Strategy June 2006 which deals in this State with smoke management from the very same planned burns and fuel reduction burns contained in my submission to the FPA. Consequently, I am at a loss to understand the comments you made in the above email to me.

So there can be no misunderstanding, would you kindly state the role of the TFS in relation to smoke management in this State whilst addressing my above email to you.

Thank you and I look forward to receiving your reply.

Yours faithfully,

Clive M. Stott