



Hazelwood Inquiry info/DPC@DTF

10/04/2014 08:20 PM

To Hazelwood Inquiry
info/DPC@DTF

cc

bcc

Subject Morwell Mine Fire Submission

1 attachment



684906-1628c80e-9e12-11e3-a562-7581a373430e.jpg

Title: MR

First Name: GREG

Surname: GILES

Email address: [REDACTED]

Home or office phone: [REDACTED]

Content of submission (you can choose multiple): Measures taken by Hazelwood Coal Mine to prevent fire, Application and administration of regulatory regimes, Response to fire by Hazelwood Coal Mine, Response to fire by Public Health Officials, Response to fire by Other Government Agencies

If Other please state here: my submission relates to the company gdf suez and the state governments handling of the morwell mine fire. I have lived and worked in the valley all my life and have experienced other mine fires and want to know why in the 1977 fire was controlled in ten days using only local and SEC fire services with help from a fire tender from RAAF sale. it is my belief that essential fire fighting infrastructure was removed to cut costs from the northern side of the mine, why 90% of the batters were not covered leaving kilometers of coal seem exposed, and why the state government failed to regulate the safety of the mine. The state government failed to act fast enough relying on information that it was going to be a quick fix when anyone who has worked in the valley knows coal fires are a different beast point in fact, in my job driving taxis we were busy carting firefighters to the fire and many said they didnt know how to fight it because they were trained in building or bushfire not coal fire after 2or 3 weeks to recall old SEC fire services officers to get ideas on what to do. This is no reflection on the firefighters who did a great job in extreme conditions, but in saying that the SEC had a fully trained and operational fire service that was disbanded after privatization and fire safety was compromised and for cost cutting. The fire caused my family a lot of grief and along with many others , as i have a terminal illness it was really hard , two days away helped but nowhere near enough was done to help . assistance was only

for health care card holders leaving the majority with nothing many of them elderly .It was a disgrace the way the public here were treated ,they never once stated publicly the true nature of their assistance. There is no way of knowing how peoples health will be affected in future

. The governments condescending attitude toward the people of Morwell is an insult. Speaking for myself i,m not interested in litigation i,m interested in getting my town back and make sure this never happens again. I would also like to see those with the responsibility of ensuring public safety are bought to task for their failure to do so

Please select one of the following options: I acknowledge that my submission will be treated as a public document and may be published, quoted or summarised by the Inquiry.

Upload Submission:

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