



In reply please quote

4 June 2014

Ms Justine Stansen  
Principal Legal Advisor  
Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry

Dear Ms Stansen

**Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry – Request for Information**

Thank you for your correspondence dated 14 and 22 May 2014 requesting meteorological information in relation to the Hazelwood mine fire.

The following information is provided with regard to the question at point 3 of the request: the time of the wind change at Morwell.

The wind change arrival time at Morwell on 9 February 2014 has been analysed using the location of Morwell as given by the Gazetteer of Australia 2012 produced by Geoscience Australia. It is based on the timing of the change in wind direction from north of west to south of west at the Latrobe Valley Airport automatic weather station (AWS), situated some 7 kilometres to the east northeast of Morwell, where the wind is measured at 10 metres above ground level. High resolution radar data from Bairnsdale weather watch radar was also used in the analysis. The Bairnsdale weather watch radar has a routine update schedule of ten minutes.

Analysis of 1-minute data from the Latrobe Valley Airport AWS indicated that the wind change occurred there at 13:47 AEDT. The first period when the wind change was continuously discernible on radar was the hour after the wind change reached the Latrobe Valley Airport AWS. Analysis of the Bairnsdale radar data during this time indicated that the wind change was moving at approximately 60 km/hr to the east-northeast.

Taking these two sources of information in combination the likely time of arrival of the wind change at Morwell is estimated as 13:40 AEDT to within plus or minus five minutes.

Yours sincerely,

Tarini Casinader  
Regional Director (Victoria)