Casha, Paul P

From:

Lester, Rosemary (Department of Health)

Sent:

Tuesday, 18 February 2014 1:32 PM

To:

Pole, Nicholas J; McKeagney, Jennifer M

Cc:

Philip, Pradeep (Department of Health); Brook, Chris (Department of Health); Meagher, Julian (Department of Health); Cameron, Meredith (Department of Health); Alexander, Bram (Department of Health); Csutoros, Danny (Department of

Health)

Subject:

Health recommendation re schools

Dear Nick/Jenny

I confirm our discussion this morning regarding health recommendations for young children in Morwell.

At this stage we have clear data from EPA on the level and intensity of bushfire smoke. This has resulted in high level bushfire warnings over several days, however today the air is of better quality. We have more limited information about CO levels. However, on the basis that some children from one of your early learning facilities have reported symptoms which would be consistent with smoke exposure, and the fact that our recommendation has been for the past couple of days for vulnerable people to spend time out of the smoke if possible, we would advise that your facilities south of Commercial Rd (ie nearest to the time) are closed and/or have provision for temporary relocation of the children out of the smoke.

Happy to discuss further if necessary.

Regards

Rosemary

health

Dr Rosemary Lester PSM Chief Health Officer Health Protection Branch Department of Health

50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000 p. 03 9096 5174 | m. 0413 005 137 | f. 03 9096 9166 | e. rosemary.lester@health.vic.gov.au w.www.health.vic.gov.au/chiefhealthofficer/