



## INTERNAL MEMO

To:	Acting Chief Officer Peter Rau	Date:	{ DATE \@ "d/MM/yy y" }
From:	ACFO Ken Brown	File Number:	{ FORMTEX T }
Subject:	MFB Review of the Hara Dam Pumping Strategy.	Copies:	{ FORMTEX T }

Chief,

The MFB has now received, via email attachment and original in the mail, the report from Assistant Chief Fire Officer Michael Morgan, Operations Command South, of the Metropolitan Fire Service South Australian re his investigation into the Hara Dam Pumping Strategy.

I have reviewed ACFO's Morgan's report and support his assessment and recommendations.

I recommend that these recommendations contained within the report are put to the Fire Commissioner, the Chief Officer CFA, the Regional Controller Hazelwood Hazmat and the Incident Controller Hazelwood Mine Incident as opportunities for improvement.

I further recommend that these opportunities for improvement receive the highest priority and are incorporated into the incident safety management systems as a matter of urgency.

### **Opportunities for improvement:**

Members of Agencies participating in the Incident Management Teams are reminded of the need for effective handovers during or at the completion of shifts. This will assist in the transfer of information that is essential to Incident Management and Safety.

Safety Officer are required to attend any Emergency Management or other Strategic meetings to ensure all the Safety concerns are passed on and enacted upon.



### **METROPOLITAN FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD**

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Incident log books are allocated to a position and not to individuals. At the commencement of the incident a log book is allocated to each position, entries are made in the log book. At the change of shift or of position the log book remains with the oncoming person. This will enable the person filling this role to review the data from the previous shift or shifts. Personnel will record the start and finish times of their shifts.

Changeover of all crews is staggered, the Operations Officers and Sector Commanders change prior to the change of firefighting crews. This will allow for the oncoming personnel to have a clearer understanding of the activities occurring.

Critical/Safety issues need to be written up and accessible to staff in each area. A Safety/Issues board to be dedicated to issues as they are identified. As the risk or issue is mitigated the officer in charge of the area will strike through the issue but not erase it. This will provide the oncoming shift/shifts with the safety issues and other issues that have occurred during the incident. This is important when incidents span over a long period of time.

Critical safety messaging procedures should be developed, implemented and included in all safety briefings.

Naming protocols and the location of sites is clearly identified and passed onto all personnel at the Incident.

### **Conclusion:**

This review has highlighted some system failures that can occur in a complex major incident involving a multiagency coordinated response. This has also uncovered some operational and cultural differences. These need to be addressed for the benefit of ongoing and future operations.

### **Recommendation:**

I recommend that a copy of the report be forwarded to the Fire Commissioner, The Chief Fire Officer CFA and the Secretary of the UFU Victorian Branch as privileged information and as lessons learnt for the continual improvement process.

Ken Brown

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