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Content of submission (you can choose multiple): Anglesea

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## Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry Submission

As a resident of Anglesea where I live with my partner and 3 young children, I submit the following;

- While it is acknowledged that the Inquiry stated it would be dealing with the issue of fire risk for the 2015/2016 summer season only and <u>not</u> the issue of the rehabilitation of the Anglesea coal mine the two are inextricably linked. Best practice rehabilitation will deliver sound fire risk management.
- With the closure of the mine and power station, there exists the opportunity for the mine site to be re-incorporated back into the world heritage listed Anglesea Heath. Best practice fire protection measures must not impede or prevent best practice rehabilitation. It would be a great shame if best practice fire prevention impaired or harmed efforts to rehabilitate the mine site back (or as close as possible) to its original condition.
- Separating fire protection measures from rehabilitation is short sighted and potentially damaging for Anglesea, both environmentally and economically.
- Close liaison and cooperation between fire prevention and rehabilitation experts is clearly the most sensible and considered approach. It must take place in order to protect not just the township of Anglesea, but the otherwise pristine environment in which it is located.
- Anglesea and surrounds are major tourist destinations in Victoria. Fire
  prevention measures must carefully include rehabilitation efforts in order to
  protect and preserve the local environment so as to continue to support the
  tourism and education industries upon which the Surf Coast region are
  economically dependent.
- Alcoa must be compelled to concentrate their efforts on both fire prevention and rehabilitation, as they have always promised the community they would.
- Ongoing collaboration between Alcoa and local indigenous species experts and other community organisations as well as coal mine rehabilitation experts and fire prevention experts will provide the best outcome for Anglesea.
- Alcoa and State government must be compelled to focus on the dual goal of a careful and considered mine site rehabilitation which brings with it, fire prevention.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to the inquiry.

Sincerely,

Dr Jacinta Morahan

Anglesea