



## Review of 'Analysis of death data during the Morwell mine fire ' Barnett, 2014 and 2015

**Andrew Neil** to: Louisa Flander

28/04/2015 09:02 AM

Cc: Sandra Falconer, Christy Boucher, Miranda Fraser-Adams

Hello Dr Flander

I work in the Health Protection Branch in the Department of Health & Human Services alongside Christy Boucher and Sandra Falconer. I have been tasked with supporting the Department's review of three papers regarding the Morwell mine fire. Thank you very much for submitting the following paper to the Department: *'Analysis of death data during the Morwell mine fire' A. Barnett, working paper, unpublished (2014, Queensland University of Technology)* and *'An updated analysis of death data during the Morwell mine fire' A. Barnett, working paper, unpublished (2015, Queensland University of Technology)*.

A number of staff have reviewed it and overall, it provided a very comprehensive critique of the Barnett papers. We note that you and your colleagues have addressed a number of queries that DHHS staff had in the March version. We just have one more point to query, in the 9 April 2015 document, which relates to the conclusion made on page 5 of the document. The second paragraph on page 5 states that: 'These results show in fact that there were no additional deaths, rather than the 0.8 deaths per postcode...' Given that this is a key finding of the paper, we wonder if it could be included in the Executive Summary? If you are happy to make this change, would it be possible to have the finalised document back by Tuesday 5 May?

Again, we thank you for the work you have done on this important piece of research and look forward to finalising this soon. I will be sending another email later today regarding the review of another of your papers, the study examining the Age-standardised mortality and cause of death in the Latrobe Valley.

cheers,

Andrew.



**Dr Andrew Neil | Strategic Projects & Regulatory Policy**

Health Protection Branch

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Please note I work all day on Mondays and Thursdays; and on Wednesday and Friday mornings.