

From: [Ariane Wilkinson](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Felicity Millner](#)
Subject: Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry 2015 - Potential brief to provide a report and give evidence
Attachments: [INDEX A.2-Terms of Reference.pdf](#)
[Ian Gordon report for EJA 15-08-11 with attachments.pdf](#)

Dear Dr Burdon

As discussed earlier this week, we act for Voices of the Valley (**VotV**).

VotV is an incorporated group of residents in the Latrobe Valley which formed in March 2014 during the Hazelwood Coal Mine Fire due to concerns about the adverse effects the fire was having on the health of persons living and working in the affected area.

VotV has been given leave to appear at the 2015 Hazelwood mine fire inquiry with respect to paragraph 6 of the Terms of Reference (see first **attachment**).

We write to inquiry as to your availability to be engaged an expert to prepare an expert report to inform the Board of Inquiry as to whether there are any dangers to human health from being exposed to the air pollutants emitted during the 2014 Hazelwood Mine Fire, and what sort of medical problems, if any, would occur in a population of people exposed to the air pollutants emitted during the Hazelwood Mine Fire, and in the Latrobe Valley generally.

Fees

VotV have very limited funds for fees for any reports, and we would be seeking your agreement to undertake such a report for a reduced, capped fee.

Should you be called by the Inquiry to give evidence, I am informed that the fees paid to experts by the Inquiry are approximately \$300 per hour, capped at \$1500 per day.

Timing

The timing is very tight, and our client would need your preliminary report by 12pm this Friday 14th August 2015.

To assist you in considering whether you have time to provide a report, I have **attached** the expert report of Professor Ian Gordon which sets out on digital pages 10 to 12 the detail of the potential brief we will provide to you, though the instructions will differ, and an indication of the amount of reading material to be included in your brief.

We would strongly prefer that you provide us with a full report, as Professor Gordon has done, however, if that is not an option given your other commitments, a more preliminary document setting out your expertise and your conclusions, and explaining how you can provide more detail of how you arrived at your conclusions if called to give evidence

I look forward to hearing how you are placed to assist.

Regards

Ariane Wilkinson
Lawyer
Environmental Justice Australia



W www.envirojustice.org.au

Environmental Justice Australia is a citizen-funded, not-for-profit, public interest legal practice, using the law to protect and restore Australia's environment.



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