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MEDIA RELEASE

Recommendations of Wambelong Fire Inquiry, a good start in addressing major concerns of NSW Volunteer Rural Firefighters.

The President of the Volunteer Firefighters Association (VFFA), Mr. Peter Cannon OAM , has welcomed the findings and recommendations of the NSW Upper House Inquiry into the Wambelong Fire, released today, as a positive step towards a system that will deliver far better outcomes for bushfire management and suppression for NSW and the Coonabarabran community.

Mr. Cannon highlighted the focus on giving the NSW RFS full control over all bushfires regardless of land tenure and requiring the NSW RFS to make better use of the local knowledge of Volunteer Firefighters at every level of the decision making chain.

“The VFFA urges the NSW State Government to adopt in full, the 29 recommendations of the Wambelong Fire Inquiry and to take strong action to provide for a far more effective and sustainable bushfire management and suppression system in which the NSW public can have full confidence,” Peter Cannon said.

“The VFFA looks forward to working with the NSW State Government and other stakeholders in the robust discussions needed to implement these recommendations and to improve the bushfire management and suppression system in NSW”

END:

President - Mr. Peter Cannon OAM - 0427 697 608

Vice President – Brian Williams – 024567.0216

Media Officer: Jon Russell - 0407 242 570

The Volunteer Firefighters Association (VFFA) represents the Volunteer Firefighters of the NSW Rural Fire Service. We do not represent any casual, part time or full time wages or salaried Staff of the NSW Rural Fire Service.

VFFA Website: www.volunteerfirefighters.org.au