

**Submission Number: NND.001.00062**

**Submission Of: John Hawkins**

### Your Details

Email address:

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Preferred means of contact: Email

What is your submission based on? I am making this submission based on my professional knowledge, qualifications or experience or on behalf of a group or organisation

What is your area of professional expertise?

If you are lodging your submission on behalf of a group or organisation, what is the name of the group or organisation? Group officer RFS

### Your Submission

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response worked well?

RFS crews on the fire ground , The huge back burning effort that went into this fire. Greater Hume Shire council for their support with what was required.

In your experience, what areas of the bushfire emergency response didn't work well?

The Southern border fire control center, no urgency to get resources, equipment & air support to the Green Valley fire, continually told us air support was coming and it didn't, then told us there wasn't any air support and there was at Wagga & Tumut air ports. Group officers had to do the organizing of heavy machinery with limited phone coverage. Fire control center making decisions (pulling out resources & crews) without consultation with ground crews which led to fire escaping containment lines which led to a death of a firefighter, loss of property & houses.

In your experience, what needs to change to improve arrangements for preparation, mitigation, response and recovery coordination for national natural disaster arrangements in Australia?

Fire control center need to take potential bad fires more seriously get what is needed faster & leave major discussions to the officers at the fire.

Is there anything else you would like to tell the Royal Commission?

Do you agree to your submission being published? Yes I agree to my submission being published in my name