



The Honourable David Elliott MP

**Minister for Corrections
Minister for Emergency Services
Minister for Veterans Affairs**



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Mr David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Blunt,

I write regarding the NSW Government response to the General Purpose Standing Committee No 5 report into the Wambelong fire.

As you would be aware the NSW Coroner is also conducting an Inquiry into the Wambelong fire.

Final submissions to the Coroner have recently been completed by relevant NSW Government agencies. However, the Coroner has yet to hand down his findings. It is clear that the Coroner is considering in detail many issues that are the subject of the Committee's recommendations.

The NSW Government had anticipated it would be responding to both the Coroner's findings and Parliamentary Inquiry's report. However, as the Coronial process remains underway, it is important that the findings of that independent process are not pre-empted in any way.

The NSW Government will provide an interim response to the recommendations of the Committee by Monday 14 September 2015. The response will outline the ongoing work of the Government and its agencies since the Wambelong fire to strengthen our framework to manage the risk of bushfires.

Yours sincerely

David Elliott MP
**MINISTER FOR CORRECTIONS
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS**

*Received at 11:40am
on Tuesday 25 August 2015*