

**INQUIRY INTO HEALTH IMPACTS OF EXPOSURE TO
POOR LEVELS OF AIR QUALITY RESULTING FROM
BUSHFIRES AND DROUGHT**

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

The mental and physical impact of the climate emergency and the horrific reality that Australia has experienced in the last 7-8 months cannot be overstated. Our world has been burning, our beautiful bush under siege. Rainforests that should never burn lost forever, billions of animals gone. And the endless horror of Smokey days, ash falling from the sky, a world tinged orange. Unable to breath, unable to sleep, unable to do all the normal things like walking, running or just standing outside. This government needs to stop protecting oil and coal. We need a nation wide effort to support our wildlife currently starving, we need to urgently rebuild our forests (now the rains have come top soil has been washed into waterways and the next extinction events are there) and we need urgent support for health services and infrastructure to cope.

The majority of AC units can't cope with the level of heat waves we can expect in future years. Those without them, like my partner and I, need support to purchase and fit our homes so we can breathe. Being trapped in an apartment with no air for days on end caused headaches, nausea and migraines for me and massive chest issues for both of us. The world is screaming, we must act now on all fronts. We can turn this around if we act NOW