

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

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The following submission relates to the NSW Parliamentary Enquiry into Health Impacts of Exposure to Poor Levels of Air Quality.

**Submission Re: Eraring Power Station Emissions**

My family and I are resident on a rural property several kilometres from the Eraring Power Station.

We are very aware of the enormous quantity of variously toxic pollutants discharged into our air space, as permitted by current EPA Licences.

We are especially concerned about the discharge of particulates – up to 3,000 Kg per day of sub 10 micron particles have been released into the air from Eraring Power Station, with permission from the EPA.

On previous occasions I have sought information from the EPA regarding the chemical composition of these particles, and I was told “they could contain almost anything”, and that if I wanted more information I should contact the Power Station operator – which I did – and was told “they were not required by the EPA to have that information”.

I have also sought information from the EPA regarding where these particles fall to the ground, and was told that an air quality monitoring station was operating at Wyong, and it was claimed that this location was representative of likely fallout.

However, my own observations, together with the weather data provided in the Todoroski Air Sciences “Lake Macquarie – Wyong Review of Monthly Ambient Air Quality Data” commissioned by the NSW EPA, categorically demonstrate that there is virtually no likelihood of Eraring discharges finding their way to Wyong (sustained north to south air flow is rare), and that a large percentage of the time, air flow and air speed are very low – leading to a reasonable conclusion that a large percentage of particle fallout will be occurring within relatively close proximity to the point of discharge – such as my family home.

We are aware of a great deal of evidence of very light grey solid residue around my home. However, we are not able to confirm whether this fallout is from Eraring because the NSW EPA is allowing its identification (by way of particle characterisation / chemical composition) to remain secret.

We regard this situation to be a serious breach of duty of care and due diligence on the part of the NSW EPA, since some generic power station particle chemistry concludes that there is a very high potential for serious health and environmental harm being caused by these emissions.

We regard it as imperative, therefore, for the NSW EPA to make all necessary arrangements to determine what is in these particles, and where they land – and to impose new Licence requirements to significantly reduce the allowable emissions (in accordance with world’s best practice).