

**From:**  
**To:** [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to inquiry - Impacts on health of air quality in Australia  
**Date:** Monday, 4 March 2013 1:43:47 PM

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It is astounding that something so crucial to our health and our lives is ignored and polluted so much in our society today. I am extremely concerned about the air quality in Victoria and Australia at large. It is idiotic to think that all the air pollution produced by coal mines and coal fired power plants does not have a serious effect on the quality of the air we breathe. Today, more and more people are being treated for respiratory problems and numerous forms of cancer have been linked to the inhalation of polluted air. When we go out of the city, to the grampians or along the great ocean road, everyone always exclaims on how beautiful the air is, how clean and fresh it is. Clean air should not be something only enjoyed when on holiday. It is a basic right to be able to breathe clean and un-harmful air. I strongly oppose using coal as a power source for the detrimental effects it has on the our health as well as that of our environment, yet every day i breathe in harmful pollutants inflicted upon me by my own government. I did not choose to live this way yet I, along with millions of others, must suffer the consequences of a government, bowing down to the mining industry, valuing economics above the health and well being of the people and the land. Please, let me have clean air. I don't deserve to suffer for your greed.

Sophie L'Estrange