

Subject: Submission to Extreme Weather Inquiry

I do not believe that any credible evidence has been produced to support the theory of Disastrous Anthropogenic Global Warming or Climate Change. Hence I do not believe that extreme weather events are the result of human activity and that they can be reversed by human intervention.

Having said that, I do believe that many of the consequences of bush fires, both in this country and elsewhere, can be mitigated by sensible management. Fuel build-up is a significant factor in the intensity of bush fires and hence in the degree of destruction from bush fires. State and local governments have encouraged the planting of flammable trees and bushes close to homes and towns and have placed almost insurmountable obstacles in the way of regular fuel reduction activities. Much of the pressure for such obstructive regulation come from people domiciled far from the areas that are being regulated.

There is no evidence that extreme weather events of all types have increased worldwide. What have increased are the costs, this is a natural consequence of inflation, and the level of news reporting, this is a consequence of modern communications.

I hold that removal of many of the obstructions to fuel removal, the greater allowing of fuel reduction burn-offs in the cooler parts of the year, and the removal of the more questionable local government requirements for property owners to retain or increase flammable vegetation, or that actively penalises the removal of dangerous vegetation around homes, would significantly reduce the bushfire threat. As for other extreme weather events, by and large we are not experiencing more or less of these. They are within the natural variability of the world's climate. Many of the disaster occur because people ignore history and do things, like build near beaches or flood prone rivers. For example, the disaster in New Orleans consequent to Hurricane Katrina came from building on flood prone areas and then not maintaining the protective levies.

Kind regards,
Kerry Bos