



THE HON ANTHONY BYRNE MP
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
TO THE PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA

Reference: C09/10503

Ms Anne Pattillo
President
International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Australasian Affiliate
Suite 122
1B/192 Ann Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Ms Pattillo

Thank you for your letter of 13 February 2009 to the Prime Minister regarding the bushfires in Victoria. The Prime Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf.

As the Prime Minister stated to Parliament on 11 February 2009, the Commonwealth Government is committed to supporting the affected Victorian communities rebuild their lives after this devastating event. Drawing on the expertise available in Australia and around the world will be essential to this process. I therefore thank you for bringing your organisation's experience to the Prime Minister's attention. It is reassuring to know that, as the affected communities and the nation as a whole embark upon this important task of rebuilding, we can count upon the experience of important organisations such as your own.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Byrne', written over a series of diagonal lines that serve as a background for the signature.

Anthony Byrne

5 MAR 2009