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Mr Andrew Morrow
Chair, Barwon South West Fire Subcommittee
C/o Kaylene Sudholz, Regional Emergency Management Planning Facilitator
83-85 Unitt Street
Melton VIC 3337

Dear Mr Morrow

ADVICE FOR REVIEWING FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANS

I am writing to all Regional Strategic Fire Management Planning Committee Chairs to provide advice regarding the review of regional and municipal fire management plans. I am aware that the cycle is approaching for regional and municipal fire management planning committees to conduct a review of their existing plans.

The State Fire Management Planning Committee (SFMPC) is commencing the development of a State Fire Mitigation Plan which will set clear outcomes, practical objectives and performance indicators to reduce the fire impact on communities and the environment for the future. The plan will provide the basis for a comprehensive review of regional and municipal plans to ensure they are aligned and complement these future directions. These activities will then be oversighted through the monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement process.

On behalf of the SFMPC, the Emergency Management Planning Unit in Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) is also revising the Fire Management Planning Guide, which is due mid-2015. The Guide will assist regional and municipal fire management planning committees in conducting a more comprehensive review of their plans in due course.

In the meantime, as Chair of the SFMPC, I request that regional and fire management planning committees await the release of the State Fire Mitigation Plan prior to undertaking a comprehensive review. Fire management planning committees should nevertheless continue to ensure their plans are current, and municipal committees should ensure their plans are meeting relevant audit requirements.

I request that you pass on the above information regarding this advice to municipal fire management planning committees within your region. EMV will advise when the revised Planning Guide has been published and placed on the Fire and Emergency Management Planning website <http://www.ifmp.vic.gov.au>.

Should you have any questions or if you would like to discuss the contents of this letter further, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Norm Free, Executive Officer for the State Fire Management Planning Committee, on either (03) 8685 1311 or via email at norm.free@emv.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Craig Lapsley PSM
Emergency Management Commissioner
Chair, State Fire Management Planning Committee

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COMMUNITIES, GOVERNMENT,
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