



Fw: Morwell Mine Fire Submission

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Submission

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Hazelwood Inquiry info/DPC@DTF
10/05/2014 03:17 PM

To Hazelwood Inquiry
info/DPC@DTF
cc
bcc
Subject Morwell Mine Fire Submission

Title: Fire impact on eye health

First Name: Catheryn

Surname: Thompson

Email address: [REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Content of submission (you can choose multiple): Response to fire by Public Health Officials, Other (please state)

If Other please state here: Impact of grit on eye health - Personal Health

Upload Submission:

<http://hazelwoodinquiry.vic.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/formidable/Submission-to-the-Hazelwood-Mine-Inquiry.doc>

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Submission-to-the-Hazelwood-Mine-Inquiry.doc

Submission to the Hazelwood Mine Inquiry

From Catheryn Thompson

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On the 25th April I went by bus into Morwell. I arrived in mid morning to attend to business I had in Morwell (as many from the district have to do).

There was low smoke visible everywhere and the smell of smoke was strong.

I walked from the bus station to George Street and felt grit get in my eye.

I thought to myself – “The grit in the air is worse than Bangkok” – I had just returned from Bangkok the previous Thursday so I was very aware of the conditions there.

Ever since that day I have had a sore right eye. It is inflamed and red.

I cannot prove that the condition is directly related to the fire but I believe the risks of carcinogenic and toxic matter impacting on Morwell & District resident’s health was much higher than has been acknowledged by Public Health officers, and the Precautionary Principle should have been applied with at least Health warnings posted & preferably a general evacuation and closure of Morwell from public access during the course of the fire.

My story is not isolated, I have spoken to many who feel that they have suffered health issues as a consequence of the fire.

Regards,

Catheryn Thompson