

## Jenny Leaman

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**From:** Tom Wise  
**Sent:** Monday, 23 February 2015 12:06 PM  
**To:** PHC  
**Subject:** FW: Preventative Health Care Inquiry , 2015  
**Attachments:** WoodsmokeControlReport.pdf

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**From:** Mark Corrigan [MCorrigan@tasbuild.com.au]  
**Sent:** Saturday, 14 February 2015 7:17 PM  
**To:** Tom Wise  
**Subject:** Preventative Health Care Inquiry , 2015

Hi Tom ,

I have enclosed a document called the Economic Appraisal for Wood Smoke Control Measures, final report 2011.

The enclosed document states that wood smoke, if allowed to continue in NSW will cost the NSW State Government

8- 9 BILLION , \$\$\$ by 2030.

Unlike other States within Australia Tasmania has approx 7-9 months of Wood Heater use. This is not only a problem

for Launceston , but every town in Tasmania from Devonport to Dover.

Tasmania has the highest rate of wood heaters in Australia. It should be OUR State Government that is commissioning

a report into Wood Smoke, but now we have this report let's not waste time in doing another one!

Some important facts regarding Wood Smoke & Health:

1. Studies have shown passive Wood Smoking is more toxic than passive Cigarette smoking.
2. Wood Smoke contains Benzene, Carbon Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, Nitrogen Oxides , Formaldehyde & VOC's, just to name a few of the toxins.
3. Studies have shown , that 70 % of wood smoke re enters buildings , either your own home or a close neighbour.
4. Children's lungs take in double the amount of air than adults, and look what they are breathing in, a second hand toxic cocktail.
5. Tasmania has the highest rate of Asthma, Heart Diseases, Stroke, repeat Heart Attacks & Strokes & Lung Diseases in Australia.
6. Tas EPA Annual report shows that New Norfolk, for e.g. has 50 days over the allowed limit for wood smoke pollution.
7. Dr James Markos (Respiratory Specialist, Launceston) is sadly, the only Doctor in Tasmania speaking out for action on this serious public health issue.
8. Evidence from Launceston Wood Heater Buy Back Scheme, reducing levels of wood smoke (still high), but improving.

I could go on and on.

Wood Smoke is also occurring from many sources within Tasmania: Private burn-offs, Forestry burn-offs, Parks and Wildlife burn-offs,

Agriculture burn-offs and of course domestic incineration of rubbish & waste. Of the 29 councils in Tasmania 25 councils still allow incinerators in the local by- laws ,

Kingborough Council for e.g. Provides info how to construct an incinerator on their website!. I personally see individuals regularly burning fresh cut GREEN WASTE,

HOUSEHOLD RUBBISH , & BUILDING MATERIALS, the list goes on all under the guise of fuel reduction. The burning is normalized & encouraged without a thought for the devastating health effects on our communities, especially babies & children. We are paying a very high price for a cheap & nasty form of waste disposal & heating , when there are other intelligent & healthy solutions for the 21<sup>st</sup> century!

We need action on this matter Yesterday! PREVENTION is the KEY. Please don't let our concerns be just another email sent to those in AUTHORITY that just gets Ignored. I'm happy to appear before the committee on this issue anytime & just require some notice due to work commitments. A reply to confirm this email has been received would also be appreciated!

Warm Regards

Mark Corrigan

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