
Appendix two – Identifying in scope inquiries

We identified a long list of almost 30 public inquiries, reviews and reports into disasters published over the last ten years. This list was compiled using the publicly available Bushfires and Natural Hazard Cooperative Research Centre database and supplemented with additional searches of NSW Parliament and other government websites including the Coronial inquest and inquiry website maintained by the Department of Communities and Justice.

The criteria used to select the 17 inquiries in scope for this audit were:

1. Inquiry, inquest, review or report is publicly available.
2. Inquiry, inquest, review or report makes recommendations affecting emergency response agencies (defined below).
3. Inquiry, inquest, review or report makes recommendations that affect the ability of emergency response agency to combat natural hazards (storms, floods and bushfires) or provide a recovery response to these natural hazards.

Emergency response agencies were defined for the purpose of this audit as agencies that respond to, prepare for, and take a lead role in combatting natural hazards (floods, bushfires and storms). For this audit, those emergency response agencies are Fire and Rescue NSW, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (a division of Department of Planning, Industry and Environment), Resilience NSW, NSW Rural Fire Service and the NSW State Emergency Service.

Appendix three contains a list of in scope inquiries and their characteristics.