

FIRE DANGER RATING SYSTEM — BURNING PERMITS

876. Hon STEVE MARTIN to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I refer to the recently updated Australian Fire Danger Rating System.

- (1) Is the minister aware of any changes to the fire danger rating system that have affected the days on which burning permits are able to be issued by local governments?
- (2) Is the minister aware of any advice given to local governments regarding the issue of burning permits on days that are now banned but were previously permitted?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Yes. The Bush Fires Amendment Act 2022 included amendments that aligned the cancellation of permits to burn with the new “high” category under the four-level fire danger rating system.
- (2) The Department of Fire and Emergency Services has engaged and briefed all regions on the changes through the regional advocates working group and each of the region and district operations advisory committees. DFES continues to conduct analysis and testing of the system to ensure accuracy, as well as liaising with local governments to respond to queries regarding understanding and application of the new system.

President, I seek leave to table the new fire danger ratings for the information of the house.

The PRESIDENT: Minister, that is an object, as distinct from a document. Therefore, may I suggest that a photocopy be taken of the object and that it be tabled at a later date.

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON: Yes, President.