

Meeting 85 – 7 June 2012

COMMUNIQUE

On 7 June 2012, the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) held its second meeting for the year.

The Chair paid tribute to outgoing SEMC members and welcomed the new members. The Chair also recognised the significant contribution to SEMC from Assistant Commissioner Mark Murdoch, Deputy State Emergency Operations Controller, Deputy Commissioner John Benson, Fire and Rescue NSW and Mr Jason Collins, Deputy State Emergency Recovery Controller.

The SEMC was briefed on the progress of a number of key projects.

Deniliquin Major Evacuation Centre

The Committee received a presentation on the logistics of establishing and operating the Deniliquin Major Evacuation Centre which involved a significant contribution from a number of agencies and functional areas.

Sprinklers in Nursing Homes

The Committee received a presentation on the value of sprinklers in nursing homes using the Quakers Hill Nursing Home fire as a case study.

Review of 2012 NSW Floods

From late November 2011 to the end of April 2012, NSW experienced one of the most significant and sustained flood events in the State's history. In this period, flooding affected 75 per cent of the state, with a total of 111 Local Government Areas having Natural Disaster Declarations made.

Given that the floods were the first large scale event to impact NSW in a number of years, the Committee is conducting a comprehensive review of the response to, and recovery from the floods.

Submissions have been received from members and the Ministry for Police and Emergency Services is currently analysing the submissions, in consultation with the SEMC Chair and members.

Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry – Final Report

On 16 March 2012, the Queensland Government released the Final Report. The Committee noted the report and received an update on work being done in NSW on the themes discussed in the Final Report.

National Emergency Management Activities

The Committee was updated on work being done at a national level.

Agency, Functional Area and Working Group Reports

The Committee was also updated on the activities of emergency service agencies, functional areas and a number of Working Groups.

The next meeting of the State Emergency Management Committee is scheduled for 6 September 2012.

ENDS