



Meeting 88 – 7 March 2013

COMMUNIQUÉ

On 7 March 2013, the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) held its first meeting for the year.

The NSW Rural Fire Service Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons and the NSW State Emergency Service Commissioner Murray Kear provided operational reports for their agencies respective activities during the 2012-2013 Summer.

The SEMC was briefed on the progress of a number of projects and made some key decisions.

SEMC Strategic Review

Members were advised that the Chair and senior representatives from the Ministry for Police and Emergency Services will be making contact to develop the themes for the special meeting that will occur in April/May 2013.

Review of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989*

The review of the SERM Act is to ensure the Act facilitates the strategic direction of the SEMC.

Terms of Reference for the Review were approved. These are to:

- a) determine whether the objectives of the SERM Act remain valid
- b) determine whether the Act adequately meets those objectives
- c) to enhance the operation of the Act taking into account contemporary emergency and rescue management principles.

Review of sub plans

Two plans were provided to the Committee by the NSW State Emergency Service for comment. These were the:

- State Storm Emergency Sub Plan
- Hawkesbury-Nepean Flood Emergency Sub Plan

These sub plans will be made available on the Ministry for Police and Emergency Services website when endorsed.

Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre

Members were advised that the Prime Minister announced on 13 February 2013 that the Commonwealth Government will contribute \$47 million dollars over eight years to the new Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, with funding to commence on 1 July 2013.

Members were advised that financial and in-kind contributions may be required from NSW Government agencies.

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 13 June 2013.

ENDS