

[23 July 2009 - Email Submission received from Ted Addison, Addison Real Estate]

Attention Mr. R Connell

Re: Public Consultations – Traralgon

I refer to your Traralgon Session to be held next Wednesday. Unfortunately I will be in Melbourne on that day and will not be able to attend. However I did wish to raise a matter, so have sent this email for your consideration, review and response.

During the 2 weeks after February Bush-fires all insurers place an embargo over the 3840 and 3844 postcodes. I have no concerns over insurers protecting their interests creating the need for such an embargo. But surely some investigation (or at least an on-site decision maker) should occur prior to a blanket embargo over entire postcodes.

The regional cities of Morwell (3840) and Traralgon (3844) with a combined population of approx 47,000, were never ever threatened by these devastating fires, yet insurers refused point – blank to underwrite business from within these cities.

In my real estate profession, property settlements, bank mortgages and buyers and sellers were unable to meet their legal obligations due to inability to secure insurance on houses, retail outlets, flats and factories. No doubt the motor vehicle industry also suffered similar problems.

In this modern day and age, there must be a better way than effecting 47,000 people in this case purely due to sharing the same post code as a fire ravaged area.

I wonder if there had been a large fire in a block of inner Melbourne (postcode 3000) would an embargo over the 3000 postcode be implemented.

I look forward to your response.

Regards,

Ted Addison

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