

The History of Electricity Fires in Victoria.

Part 3

Exhibit 263: CFA Fire Statistics

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Preface

Multiple large, fast-moving fires, in both grassy and timbered country have occurred on hot windy days throughout the past 50 years in Victoria. Many fatalities have occurred. By far the worst day for fatalities has been 7th February 2009, or Black Saturday. On that day 119 people were killed by the Kilmore East firestorm, and two people were killed by the Beechworth-Mudgegonga firestorm (in the middle of the night, so extreme was the fire behaviour!). The 2009 Bushfires Royal Commission found that both these fires were started by sparks from power lines.

Many historical reports were made available to the 2009 Bushfires Royal Commission, including Sir Esler Barber's report of his Board of Inquiry into the 1977 outbreaks. As in 2009, Barber's investigations revealed a history of power lines causing fires, going back to at least 1969. The Victorian electricity industry said after 1969 that it would fix trees and fuses. Barber found that it did not, and that CFA failed to hold up its side of the bargain with the S.E.C. – to report trees close to power lines, and to carry out regular inspections as required by the CFA Act.

What was not made available to the 2009 Bushfires Royal Commission – as far as I am aware – was the underlying detail behind Sir Esler Barber's 1977 report. This series “**The History of Electricity Fires in Victoria**” aims to present that detail in the form of important sections of the raw archival record from the 1977 inquiry. Notes, analysis and opinion added by me, endeavour to place a sound technical interpretation, and draw lessons applicable to re-regulation of the modern profit-driven electricity industry, especially to its major monopoly element, the monopoly distribution “poles and wires” companies.

This is Part 3 in the series. Notes, analysis, opinion are on the last page. I believe careful study by Victorian politicians and government agencies can lead to rational decision making to achieve **evidence-based improvements in public safety on Code Red days.**

PROV archives are of variable quality, and it has been a challenge to render photocopies of handwritten documents into legible and printable PDFs. Some pages in this document are difficult to read. If anybody wishes to see original images, please contact mickgg@suburbia.com.au and I shall endeavour to make the camera's digital photos available to you. M.G.

C.F.A. FIRE STATISTICS

NINDW
SPARE
(Short-handled underlines)

- A. Fires of 8.1.69 throughout Victoria.
1. All fires on that date.
 2. Analysis of fires on that date.
- B. Suspected S.E.C. fires after 8.1.69 compiled by Regions.
1. Region 4 8. 1.69 - 7.4.77.
 2. Region 5 8. 1.69 - 10.3.77.
 3. Region 6 8. 1.69 - 9.4.77.
 4. Region 7 26. 9.71 - 23.2.77.
 5. Region 12 11.12.69 - 12.2.77.
 6. Region 15 8. 1.69 - 6.4.77.
 7. Region 16 1. 1.70 - 26.2.77.

Total fire ban days indicated by underlining.

- C. List of total fires by regions 1969 to 1977.
1. Region 4.
 2. Region 5.
 3. Region 6.
 4. Region 7.
 5. Region 12.
 6. Region 15.
 7. Region 16.
- D. Computer print out of all fires in Victoria between
1.1.77 - 28.2.77.
- E. Computer print out of fires in Victoria.
1. By Causes-attended by rural brigades.
1.7.75 - 30.6.76.
1.7.76 - 30.4.77.
 2. By Causes - attended by urban brigades.
1.7.75 - 30.6.76.
1.7.76 - 30.4.77.
 3. By risks - attended by rural brigades.
1.7.75 - 30.6.76.
1.7.76 - 30.4.77.
 4. By risks - attended by urban brigades.
1.7.75 - 30.6.76.
1.7.76 - 30.4.77.
 5. Selected fires in Victoria 1.7.75 - 30.6.76.

263

86.77

2.

Fires caused by Lightning Strike.
Power Line.
Tree branches on power lines.
Spark from power line.

Pole fires - all causes.

6. Selected fires in Victoria 1.7.76 - 30.4.77.

Fires caused by Lightning Strike.
Power line.
Tree branches on power lines.
Spark from power line.

Pole fires - all causes.

F. Fires of 12.2.77 throughout Victoria.

1. List of all fires on that date.
2. Analysis of fire causes on that date.

G. List of Total Fire Ban days 8.1.69 - 12.2.77.

A.2.

ANALYSIS OF FIRE CAUSES 8.1.69

	4	5	6	7	15	16	Total for State
Unknown or unspecified.	1	1	2	12	4	6	116
S.E.C. Pole.	1	3	3		1		9
S.E.C. Power Lines.				3	5		18
Branch on line.		1					1
Tractor/Electrical						1	1
Electrical				1	6	2	31
Burning off				1	1	2	10
Previous Fire							3
Previous Burning Off.		1					12
Spark from fire.							5
Chimney							1
Smouldering Roots.							1
Bushfire.							1
Combustion		1		1			2
Children							3
Domestic Cause		1				1	6
Accidental match.							1
Cigarette.				1			4
Campers		1					1
Roadside.							2
Spark train.							1
Motor vehicle or machine.				1			9
Rubbish tip.							2
suspicious lines							1
Deliberate.					2		5
	2	9	5	20	19	12	246

FIRE REPORTS - 8th JANUARY, 1969

	Time Reported	Time Controlled	Brigade	Area Burnt	Probable Cause
1.	1320	1430	Ballarat City	Small	Spark from fire
	1514	1350	Ballarat City	Small	Unknown
	1020	1157	Ballarat	Small	Unknown
	1306	1730	Ballarat	4 acres	Electrical
	1350	1420	Ballarat	Small	Electrical
	1454	1515	Ballarat City	Chimney	Chimney
	1205	1240	Wendouree	Small	Unknown
	1054	110	Sebastopol	Small	Unknown
	1400	1425	Ballarat	Small	Unknown
	0905	0920	Ballarat City	Spot	Unknown
	2005	2034	Ballarat	Stumps	Previous Fire
	1615	1644	Ballarat	Small	Unknown
	1320	1435	Ballarat	Small	Unknown
			Wendouree	Small	Previous Fire
2.	1505	1905	Bendigo	200 tons 5' wood	Bushfire
	1320	1335	Golden Square	Rubbish	Unknown
	1240	1255	Golden Square	Small	Unknown
	0945	1055	Kangaroo Flats	200 acres	Unknown
	1235	1247	Golden Square	Small	Deliberate
	1420	1430	Bendigo	Small	Unknown
	1720	1735	Bendigo	Car	Children - Match
3.	1116	1219	Geelong West	House & Garage	Unknown
	0933	1010	Geelong West	House	Electrical
	0153	0246	Geelong West	Factory	Gas Cooker
	1115	1132	Norlane	5 acres	S.E.C. Power lines
	0920	0939	Norlane	Small	S.E.C. Power Lines
	1834	1853	Geelong	T.V. Set	T.V. Set
	1133	1150	Geelong	Hedge	Unknown
4.	1100	1230	Gorae West	2 acres	S.E.C. Pole
	1220	1240	Coleraine	Spot	Unknown
	1050	1750	Warrumbool	Backyard	Combustion
	1030	1105	Hamilton	Railway Sleepers	Railway burn on previous day.
	0820	1000	Mooralla	100 acres	S.E.C. pole
	0620	0915	Woorndoo	1 acre	S.E.C. pole
			Woorndoo	200 acres	S.E.C. pole
0900	1000	Hexham	Cyprus Hedge	Hot Water Heater	

	0800	Winslow	1/2 acre	Branch on power lines
	1520	D. Mcleod F/Comm.	5000 acres	Campers
	0835	Covendish	Spot	
		Apollo Bay	Woolshed	Unknown
	2040	Colac	Spot	S.E.C. pole
	0845	Irrewarre	Spot	S.E.C. pole
	0830	Weering-Zurack	250 acres	Unknown
	0845	Beeac	Spot	S.E.C. pole
7.	1015	Kodewarre	Medium	
	0935	Inverleigh	Small - 3	Burning off off
	0935	Anglesea	Small	
		Womba Park	600 acres	
	1000	Bellbrae	1 house - small	
	1330	Winchelsea	1 acre	Unknown
	0745	Little River, Lara	30,000 acres.	Unknown
		Waurm Ponds	2000 acres	Unknown
	0910	Birragurra	50 acres	S.E.C. Power lines
	1000	St. Leonards	Vacant House Block	Cigarette
	0930	St. Leonards	Rubbish Tip	Unknown
	1100	Drysdale	780 acres	Electrical
	1030	Torquay	625 acres	S.E.C. power lines
	0900	Bannockburn	14,500 acres	Grader
		Larunah North	Hayshed	Combustion.
	0933	Lorne		Unknown
	1005	Gnarwarre	3000 acres	S.E.C. power lines
	0812	Teesdale		
	0800	Bannockburn-Shelford		
	1037	Mt. Moriac		
		Gembrook	Small	
		Iona	Small	
		Sorrento		
		Hastings	Small	S.E.C. power lines
		Cranbourne	Spot	
		Crib Point	Small	
	1112	Centreville		
	1125	Skya	3 acres	Unknown
	1149	Hastings		
	1220	Phillip Island	Large	
	1049			

	1355	Bunyip	1/2 acre	S.E.C. power lines
90	1210	Koo-Wee-Rup		Unknown
1210	1400	Koo-Wee-Rup		Electrical
1115	1430	Lang Lang	4 acres	Unknown
1430	1500	Lang Lang	1 acre	Electrical
1745	1750	Cockatoo	Spot	Electrical
		Gembrook	1/2 acre	Previous roadside burns.
		Cranbourne	5 acre & house	Started in house
		Cranbourne	1/2 acre	Unknown
1145	1200	Sorrento	Spot	
1015	1130	Yarragon	1/2 acre	Electrical
0845	1130	Loch	Small	Previous burn off
0930	1015	Lardner	Small	Previous burn off.
1000	1230	Farwin Lower	60 acres	Previous burn off
1005	1025	Inverloch	Small	Electrical
1200	1315	Inverloch	7 acres	Unknown
0915	1030	Kingwak	Small	Previous burn off
1130	1330	North diding	1 acre	Previous burn off
1200	1530	Toora	1 acre	burning off
		Keehiyan	Small	Unknown
0900	1530	Fairbank-Ruby	3 acres	Smouldering roots
		Koonwarra	Small	
		Cape Patterson	Small	
		Barnum	Spot	
1045	1200	Yanakie	Spot	
1145	1200	Walkerville	Spot	
		Yanakie	Spot	Oxy Cutter
1335	1350	Cranbourne	Spot	
1350	1535	Norwell	2 1/2 acres	Unknown
2100	2145	Norwell	Spot	Unknown
		Traralgon	Small	Unknown
1240	1325	Norwell	Small	Spark previous fire
1300	1900	Norwell North	10 acres	Previous burn off
1145	2130	Newmeralla	800 acres	Electrical
1250	1700	wangara	800 acres	
1030	1130	Buxton		From previous burn
1455	1525	Broadford	1/2 acre	Electrical
1120	1140	Weymour	2 acres	Vehicle on Highway

		Seymour	25 acres	Railway burn previous day.
0930	2400/8) 2000/9)	Larneo	250 sq. miles	Tractor & Header.
		Acheron	Small	
		Alexandra		
1215	1525	Trawool	Small	
1500	1225	Glenpinane	3 acres	Unknown
1000	1035	Flowerdale		From previous burn off
		Diamond Creek		Unknown
1300	1400	Lilydale		Previous burn off
1230	1255	Lilydale		Unknown
1200	1225	Lilydale		Electrical
		Warrandyte	400 acres (approx.)	Unknown
1133	1234	Upwey	½ acre	Spark previous fire
1234	1304	Belgrave	Spot	Electrical
1127	1137	Belgrave	Spot	Spark previous fire
1152	1157	Ht. Evelyn		Electrical
1020	1040	Boronia		Unknown
1035	1040	Boronia	Spot	Unknown
1045	1110	Boronia	Spot	Electrical
1400	1605	Gruyera	Stumps	Burning off
		Silven	Spot	Roadside
1150	1210	Mooroolbark	½ acre	Unknown
1000	1430	Gruyere	1 acre	Burning off
		Warrandyte		Unknown
1050	1100	Eltham		
1000	1600	Warrandyte	Large	
		Warrandyte	Spot	Unknown
1340	2100	Cottles Bridge	600 acres	
		Wonga Park	Small	Roadside
1500	2100	Christmas Hills	Medium	
		Boronia	Building	Electrical
		Research	½ acre	Electrical
		Lunawading	4 acres	Unknown
		Orchard		
1300	1320	Eltham		
1035	1500/12	Diamond Creek	4160 acres	Deliberate
1015		Diamond Creek	5½ acres	Unknown
1100	1130	Mittlesea	Small	Unknown
1240	1515	Rowsley	4 acres	Burn off

1035	1050	Bacchus Marsh	Rubbish Tip	Unknown
0900	0915	Sunbury	1/2 acre	Unknown
0930	1040	Sunbury	3 acres	Cigarette
1045	1715	Sunbury	1000 acres	Spark previous fire
1115	1120	Arthur's Creek	1/2 acre	Electrical
1535	1830	South Horang	300 acres	Suspicious circumstances.
1145	1200	Sydenham	5 acres	Children - matches
1400	1900	Whittlesea	120 acres	S.E.C. power lines
		Whittlesea	Small	Burn off
		Parwan	Small	Burn off
		Sydenham	Small	Spark from train
1100	1900	Truganina	30,000 acres	S.E.C. Power line
		Coimadai	Rubbish tip.	Unknown
		Bulla		
0930	0945	Melton	1/2 acre	S.E.C. Power lines
1700	1710	Melton	Small	S.E.C. Power lines
1300	1815	Melton	1/2 acre	Unknown
1815	1830	Toolern Vale	1 acre	Deliberate
		Werribee	1/2 acre	Electric light pole
0845	2100/8	Barrawelt Guin Woodend		
1030	1040	Columbal n Creek	1/2 acre	Unknown
		Learmonth	10 acres	Electrical
		Learmonth	3 acres	Electrical
1900	Dawn/9	Daylesford	Large	Electrical
		Wareek Burn Song	30 acres	Deliberate
		Tylaen	20 acres	Unknown
		Carisbrook	5 acres	Deliberate
		Malmsbury	Small	Burn off
		Salbot		power line failure
1000		Ht. Cameron	10,000 acres	S.E.C. power line
		Newstead	500 acres	Electrical
		Hopburn		
0930	0940	Miners Rest	Small	Power lines blown down.
0950	0940	Emerton	Small	Electrical
		Newstead	1 acre	Electrical
		Newstead	Building	Unknown
		Miners Rest	8 acres	blown fase S.E.C. pole
		Wendouree	1/2 acre	S.E.C. wires
		Miners Rest	1/2 acre	Possible S.E.C. wires

	1215	1220	Ararat		Electrical
	1030	2030	Ararat	3500 acres	Tractor-electrical
			Yalla-Y-Poora	7000 acres	Electrical
	1435		Dunkeld-Halls Gap F/Comm.	Small	
			Dadswell Bridge	2 acres	Unknown
			Dadswell Bridge	Spot	Burning Willow
			Buangor	Small	Burn off
			Fomonol	Small	Unknown
			Tatyoan	Spot	V.R. burn off
	0950		Harnoo		
	0950	1015	Challicum South		
		1110	Bayindeen		
17.	No Reports.				
18.	1530	1545	Nyah West	Shed & Contents	Unknown
	1335	1542	Chinkapook Nyah West	600 acres	Unknown
				Motor Cycle	- backfire of motor
19.	1300	1500	St. Arnaud	Medium	
	1130	1915	Borong	Small	
	0940	0950	Gre Gre Village	Small	Unknown
20.	1015	1115	Donald	5 acres	Briquette HWS
	1530	1540	Pyramid Hill	1/2 acre	Roadside vehicles.
21.			Elphinstone		S.E.C. power line
	1515	1845	Kuldon	Large	
			Derwent Gully	200 acres	Unknown
			Kangaroo Flat	Small	
			Jarklin	100 acres	C.R.B. Rotary hoe
			Jarklin	6000 "	Match or cigarette
	1340	1415	Castlemaine	Small	Unknown
			Castlemaine	4 acres	Unknown
			Castlemaine	Spot	Rubbish Tip
			Kangaroo Flat	Tip	Rubbish tip
	1000		Bears Lagoon.		
22.	1100	1500	Nathalia	Medium	Unknown
	1350	1420	Echuca	Small	Unknown
	1205	1230	Echuca	Small	Unknown
			Waaia	1 acre	Unknown
			Yea		Unknown
			Caniambo	Small	Cigarette

23.	0928	1020	Bowser	10 acres	Wheat truck
	1005	1038	Wangaratta	1½ acres	Electrical
	1048	1058	Wangaratta	Small	Electrical
	1250	1334	Wangaratta	Medium	Unknown
	1643	1704	Wangaratta Tatong	Building 1/10 acre	Children - matches. Electrical
24.	1215	1315	Chiltern	2 acres	Electrical
			Gapsted, Yackandandah, Myrtleford Bowmans Murrumgee	16,000 acres	Wheat Harvester
26.	1108	1120	Frankston	Small	Unknown
	1048	1053	Chelsea	Shed	Unknown
	1010	1019	Dandenong	Small	Unknown
	1035	1103	Doveton	Small	Unknown
	1208	1432	Dandenong	10 acres	Unknown
	1200	1230	Skye	4 acres	Unknown
			Springvale	Spot	Accidental (Match)
		Springvale	Spot	Electrical (S/C Meter).	

REGION 4

L

FIRES INVOLVING S.E.C. INSTALLATIONS.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>PROBABLE CAUSE</u>
<u>1969</u>					
8.1.69	GORAE WEST	1100	GRASS	SPOT	POLE
25.2.69	BAIT BELT.	1540	GRASS	MEDIUM	LINESMEN SMOKING OR FAULTY FUSE.
<u>1970</u>					
29.1.70	DARTMOOR	1440	GRASS	SPOT	POWER LINES TOUCHING TREES.
7.3.70	LYONS	1400	GRASS	SMALL	PLANE STRIKING POWER LINES.
<u>1971</u>					
14.1.71	NELSON	1040	POLE	SPOT	POLE SHORT
23.1.71	PORTLAND	2110	POLE	SPOT	SEA SPURT ON INSULATORS.
30.1.71	PORTLAND	2115	POLE	SPOT	FAULTY INSULATOR.
31.1.71	PORTLAND	2135	POLE	SPOT	FAULTY INSULATOR.
8.2.71	TARENTOVKHYAN	0745	GRASS	SMALL	BROKEN POWER LINE.
8.2.71	PORTLAND	0906	SHRUB	SPOT	BROKEN POWER LINE.
19.2.71	MYRAMYN.	0830	SHRUB	SPOT	POWER LINES TOUCHING TREES.
25.2.71	NELSON.	1030	GRASS	SPOT	S.E.C. POLE.
26.2.71	HENTY	1045	GRASS	MEDIUM	FUSE FAULT.
4.3.71	DUNROBIN	1245	GRASS	SPOT	LIGHTNING ARRESTOR EXPLOD.
<u>1972</u>					
6.5.72	PORTLAND	0715	POLE	SPOT	SHORT CIRCUIT.
20.12.72	MERINO	0830	POLE	SPOT	BLOWN FUSE.
<u>1973</u>					
13.1.73	BRANIHOLME	0245	POLE	SPOT	W/R
23.1.73	CAPE BRIDGENATER	1020	POLE + GRASS	SPOT	W/R
12.2.73	NELSON	1130	POLE	SPOT	W/R
5.11.73	PORTLAND	2240	POLE	SPOT	FIREMARKS AT BASE OF POLE.
27.12.73	DUNROBIN	1855	GRASS + HAY	SMALL	POWER LINE DOWN.
<u>1974</u>					
31.1.74	WARRAWONGE	1105	GRASS	SMALL	ARCHING POWER LINES.
10.2.74	PORTLAND	0515	POLE	SPOT	ELECTRICAL SHORT.
8.3.74	TYRENDARRA.	1200.	POLE	SPOT	SHORT ON INSULATOR.

DATE	LOCATION	TIME	TYPE	SIZE	PROBABLE CAUSE
10.3.74	TARRANLEA	1545	GRASS	SMALL	BLOWN FUSE LIMITED CON
10.3.74	TARRANLEA	1550	GRASS	SMALL	BLOWN FUSE LIMITED CON
1.12.74	NELSON	0900	POLE	SPOT	SHORT.
28.12.74	DARTMOOR	1210	POLE	SPOT	FAULTY INSULATOR.
<u>1975</u>					
6.2.75	CHEWYND	1415	GRASS	SMALL	POWER LINE.
7.2.75	NARRAWONG	1500	POLE	SPOT	INSULATION BREAK.
18.2.75	HEYWOOD	1915	GRASS.	SMALL	POLE FAULT.
23.2.75	PORTLAND	2150	2x POLES.	SPOTS.	U/K.
1.3.75	PORTLAND	1845	GRASS + POLE	SPOT	FUSE FAULT.
3.3.75	NARRAWONG.	0930	POLE	SPOT	SALT ON INSULATOR.
6.3.75	PORTLAND	2100	POLE	SPOT	SHORT ON CROSS ARM.
8.3.75	PORTLAND	2140	POLE	SPOT	FAULT
9.3.75	MERING.	1900.	POLE	SPOT	INSULATOR FAULT.
10.3.75	PORTLAND	2040	POLE	SPOT	FAULT.
14.3.75	PORTLAND	0617	POLE	SPOT	FAULT.
20.6.75	SANDFORD	2300	POLE	SPOT	SHORT.
12.8.75	PORTLAND	2400	POLE	SPOT	SHORT.
<u>1976</u>					
14.1.76	NARRAWONG	1053.	GRASS.	SMALL	S.E.C. POLE.
5.2.76	PORTLAND	0518	POLE	SPOT	SALT ON INSULATOR.
5.3.76	PORTLAND	2157	POLE	SPOT	SALT ON INSULATOR.
5.3.76	PORTLAND	2335	POLE	SPOT	SALT ON INSULATOR.
6.3.76	PORTLAND	0239	POLE	SPOT	SALT ON INSULATOR.
13.3.76	PORTLAND	1050	GRASS + POLE.	SPOT	BURNING INSULATOR.
2.12.76	NELSON.	1700	GRASS.	SPOT	POLE.
22.12.76	WALLACE DALE.	2030	POLE	SPOT	U/K.
<u>1977</u>					
6.2.77	TARAYOUKYAN.	1015	GRASS.	SMALL	FAULTY INSULATION ON POWER LINE
11.2.77	HEYWOOD	1645	GRASS.	SPOT	TRANSFORMER FUSE ON LAND.
11.2.77	HEYWOOD	1825	GRASS	SPOT	TRANSFORMER FAULT.
12.2.77	MERING	1045	HAY + GRASS.	SMALL.	POWER LINE TO DOWNING TREES

DATE	LOCATION	TIME	TYPE	SIZE	PROBABLE CAUSE
12-2-77	COLERAINE	1110	GRASS	SPOT	POWER LINES TOUCHING TREES
12-2-77	PORTLAND	1207	GRASS	SPOT	POWER LINE
24-2-77	PORTLAND	0753	POLE	SPOT	U/K
11-3-77	PORTLAND	1925	GRASS + POLE	SPOT	POWER LINES
11-3-77	HEYWOOD	1250	GRASS	SPOT	POWER LINES
12-3-77	COLERAINE	0600	POLE	SPOT	DAMP INSULATOR
19-3-77	BALMORAL NORTH	1730	GRASS	SPOT	INSULATION STRIPPED OFF POWER LINE
23-3-77	DERGHOLM	1830	GRASS	SPOT	POWER LINE TOUCHING TREE
7-4-77	TYRENDARRA	2300	GRASS	SPOT	BLOWN FUSES

SIZE:- SPOT - 1 acre.
 SMALL - 1 - 10 acres.
 MEDIUM - 10 - 100 acres.
 LARGE - over 100 acres.

REGION FIVE

FIRES SUSPECTED TO BE CAUSED

BY S.E.C. 1.1.69 - 16.6.77.

DATE	BRIGADE	SIZE	SUSPECTED CAUSE.
<u>8.1.69</u>	MOORALLA	100 ACRES	S.E.C. POLE FIRE.
<u>8.1.69</u>	WOORNDOO	30 ACRES	" " "
<u>8.1.69</u>	WOORNDOO	1 ACRE	" " "
<u>8.1.69</u>	WINSLOW	1/4 ACRE	TREE ON SEC LINE.
4.1.69	HAMILTON URBAN	POLE ONLY	FAULTY INSULATOR.
19.1.69	SPRING CREEK	POLE ONLY	" "
<u>20.1.69</u>	THE SISTERS	SPOT.	SEC POLE FIRE.
<u>21.1.69</u>	BURN BRAE	SPOT	SEC POLE FUSE.
<u>17.1.69</u>	MINHAMITE	1 ACRE	POWER LINE
<u>17.1.69</u>	MINHAMITE	1 ACRE	TREE BRANCH ON SEC LINE.
<u>21.1.69</u>	KOLORA	TREE	TREE IN CONTACT WITH LINE
5.2.69	BYADUK	1/2 ACRE	BRANCH ON LINE
4.2.69	ALLANSFORD	1/4 ACRE	POLE FIRE
5.2.69	BYADUK.	1/4 ACRE	CRANE BROUGHT DOWN LINE
8.8.69	NIRRANDA SOUTH	POLE ONLY	SHORTED INSULATOR.
<u>23.1.70</u>	ALLANSFORD	1/2 ACRE	SEC POLE.
3.1.70	THE SISTERS	1 ACRE.	SEC POLE FUSE.
10.2.70	ALLANSFORD	POLE ONLY	BIRD FLYING INTO FUSE BOX
25.2.70	WANGOOM	SPOT	SEC SHORT.
4.3.70	MEPUNGA EAST	SMALL	SEC POLE FIRE.
9.3.70	MEPUNGA EAST	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATORS.
4.3.70	ALLANSFORD	" "	" "
9.3.70	NULLAWARRE	POLE ONLY	" "
27.10.70	MACARTHUR	" "	" "
<u>16.2.71</u>	HAMILTON RURAL	MEDIUM	TREE LIMB ON LINE
13.3.71	MACARTHUR	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
<u>2.2.72</u>	WANGOOM	1/4 ACRE.	SEC CONDUCTORS
6.2.72	TARRINGTON	SPOT	FALLEN CONDUCTORS
27.2.72	TARRINGTON	1/2 ACRE	" "
10.3.72	HAWKESDALE	POLE ONLY	" "
29.3.72	YULECART	SMALL	SEC POLE FIRE.
28.11.72	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR.
30.11.72	" "	" "	" "
14.12.72	PURNIM. WOORNDOO	SPOT.	SEC WIRES TOUCHED

DATE	BRIGADE	SIZE	SUSPECTED CAUSE
14-12-72	TARRINGTON	SPOT - GRASS	SEC WIRE.
15-12-72	ALLANSFORD	SPOT - GRASS	SEC WIRE.
23-12-72	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR.
23-12-72	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR.
24-12-72	WINSLOW - YARPTON	POLE ONLY	-
15-12-72	WILLATOOK	SPOT GRASS	SEC POLE FIRE
29-12-72	ALLANSFORD	POLE ONLY	-
3-1-73	ALLANSFORD	SPOT - GRASS	SEC POLE FIRE
3-1-73	CARAMUT	SMALL - GRASS	FALLEN SEC WIRE.
3-1-73	THE SISTERS	SPOT - GRASS	SEC POLE FIRE.
6-1-73	WILLATOOK	SPOT - GRASS	SEC POLE FIRE
6-1-73	ALLANSFORD	SPOT - GRASS	" " "
6-1-73	HIAWIKESDALE	POLE - ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
12-1-73	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	" "	LOOSE WIRE.
12-1-73	PURNIM	SMALL - GRASS	SEC WIRES TOUCHING.
6-1-73	WANGOOM	SPOT - GRASS	" " "
16-1-73	WARRONG.	" - "	SEC POLE FIRE
20-1-73	ORFORD	- - "	" - "
20-1-73	HEXHAM	BUILDING	LIGHTNING ARRESTOR ARKING
19-1-73	GARVOG	VEHICLE	SEC. HYDRAULIC PLATFORM TOUCHED WIRES.
25-1-73	PURNIM	POLE - ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
25-1-73	DIACARTHUR	" "	" "
12-1-73	"	SPOT - GRASS	SEC POLE FIRE.
26-1-73	ST HELENS	SPOT - GRASS	SEC POLE FIRE.
5-2-73	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE - ONLY	FAULTY INSULATOR
18-1-73	MERVINGA EAST	SPOT - GRASS	SEC WIRES
19-2-73	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE - ONLY	-
16-3-73	WOODFORD	SPOT - PINENEEDLE	SEC WIRE.
11-3-73	WOODRIDGE	S.E.C - POLE ONLY	-
4-5-73	ALLANSFORD	CYPRESS TREE	SEC WIRE.
25-9-73	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE ONLY	SHORT CIRCUIT.
28-12-73	WARRNAMBOOL "	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
4-1-74	CARAMUT	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
13-1-74	HAMILTON URBAN	" "	-
26-1-74	WARRNAMBOOL "	" "	SEA MIST
30-1-74	TOORONG	FIELD - GRASS	FALLEN SEC WIRE

DATE	BRIGADE	SIZE	SUSPECTED CAUSE
10.2.74	PORT FAIRY URBAN	POLE - ONLY	-
20.2.74	YULECART	SMALL - GRASS	SEC WIRES
14.2.74	ST HELENS	POLE ONLY	-
20.2.74	WINSLOW	POLE ONLY	-
22.2.74	YULECART	SPOT - GRASS	SEC WIRES.
28.2.74	ELLERSLIE	SMALL - GRASS	" "
3.3.74	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
6.3.74	"	" "	" "
6.3.74	"	" "	" "
7.3.74	"	" "	" "
7.3.74	"	" "	" "
8.3.74	"	" "	" "
9.3.74	"	" "	" "
10.3.74	"	" "	" "
10.3.74	"	" "	" "
12.3.74	"	" "	" "
18.3.74	BYADUK	A. ACRES - GRASS	SEC POLE FIRE
8.3.74	KORBIT URBAN	POLE ONLY	SHORT
18.3.74	WOOLSTHORPE	" "	"
22.3.74	BESSIEBELLE	SPOT - GRASS	H.T. SEC LINE
21.3.74	"	POLE - ONLY	SHORT.
13.2.74	MREPUNGA EAST	" "	DIRTY INSULATOR
12.2.74	" "	SPOT - GRASS	POWER LINES
8.3.74	" "	POLE - ONLY	SHORT
7.7.74	" "	" "	" "
30.1.74	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE ONLY	BROKEN INSULATOR
7.12.74	BOCHARA	POLE ONLY	SHORT
8.1.75	PETERBOROUGH	POLE ONLY	-
30.1.75	WOOLSTHORPE	PINE TREE	SEC WIRE IN CONTACT
31.1.75	THE SISTERS	SPOT - GRASS	BLOWN SEC FUSE
1.2.75	ALLANSFORD	POLE ONLY	-
3.2.75	TARRINGTON	POLE ONLY	-
4.2.75	DUGGAN'S SWAMP	POLE ONLY	-
1.2.75	MORTLAKE - URBAN	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATORS
21.2.75	ALLANSFORD	SPOT - GRASS	POLE FIRE.
22.2.75	CAVENDISH	LARGE - GRASS	FALLEN SEC WIRE
25.2.75	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	SPOT - GRASS	SEC FUSE

DATE	BRIGADE	SIZE	SUSPECTED CAUSE
7-3-75	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
28-2-75	KORBIT RURAL	SPOT - GRASS	SEC POLE FIRE.
8-3-75	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
8-3-75	NORTH BYADUK	POLE ONLY	-
8-3-75	HAMILTON URBAN	POLE ONLY	-
16-3-75	HAMILTON RURAL	SMALL - GRASS	SEC. WIRES
1-2-75	MORT LAKE RURAL	SPOT - GRASS	SEC POLE FIRE
11-12-75	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	PILLAR - ONLY	SHORT CIRCUIT.
14-12-75	WARRNAMBOOL "	POLE - ONLY	SALT DEPOSIT.
16-12-75	GRASSMERE	POLE - ONLY	-
4-1-76	TURNIM - WOODMANN	TREE	SEC WIRES
7-1-76	KORBIT RURAL	POLE - ONLY	-
18-1-76	VICTORIA VALLEY	SPOT - GRASS	SEC WIRES
13-1-76	WARRNAMBOOL URBAN	POLE - ONLY	-
4-1-76	ELLERSLIE	SPOT - GRASS	SEC WIRES
3-1-76	ST. HELENS	POLE - ONLY	-
4-2-76	ARDONACHIE	SMALL - GRASS	SURGE DIVERTER.
31-1-76	ALLANSFORD	SPOT - GRASS	POLE FIRE.
5-2-76	WOODFIELD	POLE - ONLY	-
4-2-76	ST HELENS	POLE - ONLY	-
5-2-76	PANMURE	SPOT - GRASS	BROKEN SEC WIRE
6-1-76	KORBIT RURAL	POLE - ONLY	SHORT CIRCUIT.
6-2-76	ST. HELENS	POLE - ONLY	" "
8-2-76	MACARTHUR	SMALL GRASS POLE ONLY	SEC LINE FACILITY
17-2-76	BROADWATER	SPOT - GRASS	OWNER TRIMMING TREES
19-2-76	NTH PENSHURST	MED - GRASS	FALLEN LINE
13-2-76	NULLAWARRE	SPOT - GRASS	S.E.C. FUSE
4-3-76	YAMBUK	POLE - ONLY	-
4-3-76	WOODWYRTE	MED - GRASS	S.E.C. WIRES
9-3-76	MIRRAWATWA	SPOT - GRASS	S.E.C. LINE
16-3-76	BURN COPE	SEC POLE	LIGHTNING.
13-3-76	ALLANSFORD	POLE ONLY	-
7-3-76	TOOLONG	POLE ONLY	FAULTY CROSS ARM
3-4-76	HAMILTON RURAL	SPOT GRASS	SEC WIRES
4-4-76	FORT FAIRY URBAN	POLE ONLY	-
4-3-76	ST HELENS	POLE ONLY	BROKEN WIRE

DATE	BRIGADE	SIZE	SUSPECTED CAUSE
13. 3. 76	MERPUNGA EAST	POLE FIRE	BROKEN POLE
4. 12. 76	WARRNAMINGL URBAN	POLE ONLY	SHORT CIRCUIT.
23. 12. 76	" "	" "	DIRTY INSULATOR
22. 12. 76	WOODSTHERPE	TREE	SEC LINES IN CONTACT.
31. 12. 76	" "	SPOT - GRASS	SEC LINES
8. 1. 77	YULECART	POLE - ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
9. 1. 77	WARRNAMINGL URBAN	SPOT - GRASS	SEC WIRES
9. 1. 77	" "	POLE ONLY	FAULTY INSULATOR
8. 1. 77	STRATHKERLAR	POLE ONLY	FAULTY INSULATOR
12. 1. 77	WARRAYURE - MUDJUP	LARGE - GRASS	SEC FUSE
16. 1. 77	BULART	SPOT - SCRUB	DAMAGED INSULATORS
31. 1. 77	KIRKSTALL	SPOT - GRASS	BIRD IN HT WIRES
3. 2. 77	WARRNAMINGL	POLE - ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
6. 2. 77	YULECART	SPOT - GRASS	TREE ON SEC WIRES
5. 2. 77	STRATHMORE	LARGE - GRASS	SEC WIRE.
5. 2. 77	WOODHOUSE	POLE ONLY	FAULTY INSULATOR
12. 2. 77	NORTH BARDUK	LARGE - GRASS	POWER LINES
12. 2. 77	HAWKESDALE	TREES.	SEC CONDUCTORS DOWN
4. 2. 77	GAZETTE	SPOT - GRASS	SEC CONDUCTORS
13. 2. 77	STRATHMORE	LARGE - GRASS	POWER LINE FAULT
12. 2. 77	NERRIN NERRIN	LARGE - GRASS	POWER LINE IN CONTACT WITH
12. 2. 77	MORTLAKE RURAL	MEDIUM - GRASS	SEC LINE.
12. 2. 77	MERPUNGA EAST	SMALL - GRASS	SEC POLE BROKEN
12. 2. 77	NARINGAL	SPOT - GRASS	SEC LINES IN CONTACT WITH
12. 2. 77	HAMILTON URBAN	SPOT GRASS	SEC POWER BOX
11. 2. 77	KERDIT RURAL	SPOT GRASS	CAR HIT POWER PILE
12. 2. 77	WOODHOUSE	PLANTATIONS	SEC LINES CONTACTING TREES
18. 2. 77	KERDIT RURAL	POLE - ONLY	—
24. 2. 77	WARRNAMINGL URBAN	POLE - ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR.
11. 3. 77	ALLANFIELD	POLE ONLY	DIRTY INSULATOR
10. 3. 77	MINHAMITE.	SPOT - GRASS	POSSUM ON SEC LINE.

R.6
1969

FIRES SUSPECTED TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY S.E.C. INSTALLATIONS.

Occurrence No.	Date	Time	Brigade Area	Type	Size	Cause
16	8.1.69	0845	Irrewarra	Grass	Small	Power Line
18	8.1.69	0830	Weering-Eurack	Grass	Large	" "
25	8.1.69	1100	Besac	Grass	Small	" "
23	17.1.69	1840	Pomborneit	Grass	small	" "
26	17.1.69	2030	Boorcan	S.E.C.Pole	spot	Short Circuit
	18.1.69	0930	Noorat	Grass	small	Power Line
27	24.1.69	2200	Warrion	Grass	small	" "
36	26.2.69	0865	Mingay	Grass	small	" "
	11.12.69	1830	Berrybank	Grass	small	" "

Total 9

1970

35	12.2.70	1850	Apollo Bay	S.E.C.Pole	spot	H.T.Sparks
33	10.2.70	1740	Ecklin	Grass	Small	Eagle hit Powerlines
	9.2.70	1230	Noorat	Plantation	small	Power lines
36	15.2.70	0400	Corerooke	Grass	small	S.E.C.Wires
37	18.2.70	0820	Jancourt	Grass	small	Trees fall on wires
38	18.2.70	1020	Chocolyn	Grass	small	S.E.C. Pole blown over
43	4.3.70	2130	Tesbury	Grass	small	S.E.C.Pole
	14.10.70	0315	Pt.Campbell	S.E.C.Pole	spot	Short Circuit
	4.11.70	2135	Boorcan	Grass	small	S.E.C.Powerlines

Total 9

1971

23	5.1.71	0900	Pomborneit	Grass	spot	Pole arm broken
43	22.12.71	0800	Leslie Manor	Grass	spot	Fuse fell to ground catcher to catch it.

Total 2

1972

1972

Occurrence No. Date Time Brigade Area Type Size Cause

58	1.2.72	1420	Pomborneit	Grass	small	Broken S.E.C.Wire
63	2.2.72	0830	"	Grass	spot	Branch on S.E.C.Wires
70	2.2.72	1100	Lismore	Grass	spot	Tree on powerlines
55	2.2.72	1710	Derrinallum	Grass	spot	S.E.C. Insulator
75	22.2.72	0915	Chocolyn	Hedge	spot	Broken Powerline
84	20.12.72	1640	Yeo	Building	spot	S.E.C.Pole
89	21.12.72	0830	Irrewarra	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole top
88	22.12.72	0045	Stoneyford	S.E.C.Pole	spot	S.E.C.Line fault
92	23.12.72	1750	Terang/Dixie	Plantation	spot	" "
95	27.12.72	1030	Simpson	Pole top	spot	S.E.C.Pole top

Total 10

1973

1973

Occurrence Date

Brigade Area

Size

Cause

6666 No.

Occurrence No.	Date	Time	Brigade Area	Type	Size	Cause
101	2.1.73	1415	Darlington	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole top
117	12.1.73	2130	Bookar	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Line
121	19.1.73	1314	Terang/Dixie	Vehicle/Grass	spot	S.E.C.Crane in contact with lines
122	20.1.73	1645	Noorat	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Lines in contact with trees
136	20.1.73	1530	Noorat	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Powerlines
140	19.1.73	1900	Mingay	Grass	spot	"
131	24.1.73	2200	Terang/Dixie	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Wires fused
153	17.2.73	1630	Wearing/Eurack	Grass	spot	Fallen S.E.C.Lines
187	13.5.73	2200	Timboon	Building	spot	S.E.C.fault
1.	30.6.73	2000	Stoneyford	Pole Top	spot	Line fault
3.	18.6.73	1800	Camperdown	Pole top	spot	"
20	8.10.73	1800	Princetown	S.E.C.Pole	spot	Lightning
31	2.12.73	2315	Cororooke	Tree	spot	fallen branch on power lines
34	9.12.73	1600	Leslie Manor	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Fuse fell to ground
59	9.12.73	1610	Chocolyn	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Fuse fell to ground
38	12.12.73	1230	Jancourt	S.E.C.Pole	spot	S.E.C. fault
54	21.12.73	1215	Beaac	Grass	medium	S.E.C.Wires
55	21.12.73	1400	Beaac	Hayshed	spot	S.E.C.Wires
56	21.12.73	2400	Beaac	Pole/Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole top
102	28.12.73	1415	Bookar	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole

Total 20

1974

1974

Occurrence No.	Date	Time	Brigade area	Type	Size	Cause
58	12.1.74	0645	Beeac	Grass	spot	S.F.C.Pole
73	13.1.74	1600	Beeac	Grass	small	Broken Cross arm on pole
89	29.1.74	1400	Swan Marsh	Grass	spot	S.F.C.Pole top
80	30.1.74	1830	Nalangil	Grass	small	Branch on power lines
83	31.1.74	1415	Jancourt	Grass	spot	S.F.C.Pole
86	2.2.74	1230	Camperdown	Grass	spot	S.F.C.Pole
111	21.2.74	2040	Apollo Bay	Grass	spot	Fallen S.F.C.Lines
151	30.4.74	0100	Princetown	Pole top	spot	S.F.C.Pole
169	10.6.74	0630	Princetown	Pole top	spot	" "

Total 9

1974

1974

Occurrence No.	Date	Time	Brigade area	Type	Size	Cause
68	12.1.74	0645	Beesac	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole
73	13.1.74	1600	Beesac	Grass	small	Broken Grass arm on pole
89	29.1.74	1400	Suan Marsh	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole top
80	30.1.74	1830	Malangil	Grass	small	Branch on power lines
83	31.1.74	1415	Jancourt	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole
86	2.2.74	1230	Camperdown	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole
111	21.2.74	2040	Apollo Bay	Grass	spot	Fallen S.E.C.Lines
151	30.4.74	0100	Princetown	Pole top	spot	S.E.C.Pole
169	10.6.74	0630	Princetown	Pole top	spot	" "

Total 9

1975

1975

Occurrence No.	Date	Time	Brigades Area	Type	Size	Cause
86	7.1.75	1100	Beac	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole
155	9.1.75	0700	Apollo Bay	S.E.C.Pole	spot	S.E.C.Fault
101	26.1.75	2215	Lismore	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole top
94	29.1.75	1900	Mingay	Grass	medium	Trees over power lines
95	31.1.75	1645	Terang.Dixie	S.E.C.Pole	spot	Pole top
92	1.2.75	0530	Stoneyford	Grass	small	S.E.C.Pole
107	1.2.75	0700	Darlington	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole
100	1.2.75	1130	Mingay	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Line
97	4.2.75	0950	Draeite South	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Fuse
160	7.2.75	1345	Gerangemete F/C.	Scrub	small	S.E.C.Power line
156	22.2.75	0230	Apollo Bay	S.E.C.Pole	spot	S.E.C.Fault
122	22.2.75	1720	Colac	Grass	spot	Kite fouled power lines
125	26.2.75	0520	Darlington	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Pole top
131	28.2.75	1145	Noorat	Grass	medium	S.E.C.Pole fault
132	2.3.75	0915	Wye River	Grass	spot	Tree on power lines
129	3.3.75	0400	Warncourt	Pole top	spot	S.E.C.fault
134	3.3.75	0600	Meering/Eurack	Pole Top	spot	S.E.C.fault
162	3.3.75	0600	Timboon	S.E.C.Pole	spot	S.E.C.fault
141	9.3.75	1845	Wye River	Pole	spot	S.E.C.Pole fault
142	10.3.75	0330	Wye River	Pole	spot	S.E.C.Pole fault

Total 20

1976

1976

Occurrence No.	Date	Time	Brigade Area	Type	Size	Cause
82	4.1.76	1400	Duverney	Grass	Large	Tree over S.E.C. wires
254	4.1.76	2200	Crassy	S.E.C. Pole	spot	Tree over wire
94	6.1.76	1000	Princetown	Pole	spot	Pole top fire
87	10.1.76	1330	Duverney	Grass	spot	Tree shorting S.E.C. wires
99	12.1.76	1255	Choccolyn	Grass/pole	spot	Fallen S.E.C. wire
98	14.1.76	2015	Camperdown	Pole	spot	Pole top fire
100	15.1.76	1215	Larpen	Grass	spot	Fallen S.E.C. wire
113	20.1.76	1410	Darlington	Grass	spot	S.E.C. Pole insulator
118	1.2.76	0055	Wye River	Grass	small	S.E.C. wires
134	6.2.76	1800	Apollo Bay	scrub	small	S.E.C. Pole
172	26.2.76	2115	Camperdown	Grass	spot	S.E.C. Wires
166.75	4.3.76	1430	Scotts Creek	Tree	spot	"
177	4.3.76	1700	Ningay	Grass	spot	"
168	5.3.76	0700	Wye River	Grass	spot	"
178	5.3.76	2115	Wye River	Pole	spot	"
243	9.3.76	2200	Beac	Pole top	spot	Short circuit
191	26.3.76	1130	Uearite	Grass	spot	S.E.C. Wires
199	4.4.76	1530	Cotrooke	S.E.C. Pole	spot	"
19	2.8.76	0700	Stoneyford	S.E.C. Pole	spot	Short circuit on pole
53	22.12.76	2230	Bourcen	S.E.C. Pole	spot	S.E.C. Wires
60	25.12.76	2345	Noorat	Tree/Grass	spot	S.E.C. Wires
73	31.12.76	1100	Barrybank	Grass	spot	Broken S.E.C. Line

Total 22

1977

1977

Occurrence No.	Date	Time	Brigade Area	Type	Size	Cause
77	13.1.77	1400	Princetown	Grass	spot	S.E.C.Wires
153	20.1.77	0600	Weerite	Grass	spot	"
89	1.2.77	1300	Colac	Grass	spot	"
90	1.2.77	1500	Colac	Grass	spot	"
99	4.2.77	2000	Uye River	Tree	spot	tree fell across power lines
106	11.2.77	1430	Cobden	S.E.C.Pole	spot	Cross atm on fare
125	12.2.77	1315	Elingamite	no fire branch on power line	brigsade stood by	
104	12.2.77	1400	Weering/Eurack	Grass	large	S.E.C.Wires clashing
154	12.2.77	1430	Weerite	Building	spot	Fallen S.E.C.Line
107	12.2.77	1500	Boorcan	S.E.C.Pole	spot	S.E.C.Wires
114	12.2.77	1500	Lismore	Grass	large	S.E.C.Wires
112	22.2.77	1140	Chocolyn	Grass	spot	Branch over Power lines
167	8.4.77	1700	Lismore	Grass	spot	S.E.C.fuse
Total 13						
64	7.1.77	1100	Beaac	Scrub	smell	S.E.C.Workmen Blasting
105	12.2.77	1240	Pure Pure	Grass	Large	S.E.C.Lines (Region 5)
115	12.2.77	1240	Stratham	Grass	Large	" (Region 15)
113	12.2.77	1331	Creasy	Grass	Large	" (Region 15)

SEC. FIRES - REGION 7

①

BURGLADE	DATE	TIME	PROBABLE CAUSE	SIZE OF FIRE	TYPE OF FIRE	REMARKS
CELANO DRIVE. U.	26-9-71	1745	DIRTY RUBB.	SPOT	SEC. FUEL	
L'ALLINGTON R.	3-10-71	1470	POWER LINES	"	TREE	By high winds ign. +.
"	22-11-71	1620	SPOT	"	SEC. TRANSFORMER	
FORGLIAY. R.	27-11-71	1440	"	"	SEC. FUEL	
DAYSDALE U.	18-12-71	10:30	DIRTY INSUL. & CROSS ARM.	SMALL	SEC. FUEL	
BANNOCK BURN. R.	31-12-71	1145	POWER LINES	SPOT	CROSS	PART. 1971. - 6
L'ALLINGTON. R.	30-1-72	2250	DIRTY INSUL. & CROSS ARM.	SMALL	SEC. FUEL	
MANNINGHAM. R.	29-1-72	0010	SAGGY	SPOT	SEC. FUEL	
LARA. R.	9-4-72	0920	DIRTY INSUL.	"	SEC. CROSS ARM.	26-9-71 → 30-6-72. == 9
FRESHWATER CR. R.	25-5-72	1405	BURN BIT	"	PLANTATION	
REDHALL. R.	14-12-72	1000	SEC. LINES	"	CROSS	
LITTLE RIVER. R.	14-12-72	1130	"	"	"	
WINDMELSA. R.	24-12-72	1055	SAGGY	"	SEC. FUEL	
BANNOCK BURN. R.	24-12-72	1445	"	"	"	
INDRELEIGH	2-1-73	1335	DIRTY INSUL. & SEC. LINES	SMALL	CROSS	
MIDLEBARRE. R.	20-12-72	1630	CROSS ARM.	"	CROSS	
QUEENSLIFF. U.	16-1-73	0145	SPOT	SPOT	SEC. FUEL	
WINDMELSA. R.	17-1-73	1415	SEC. LINES	"	TREE	
CELANO DRIVE. U.	22-1-73	2107	SAGGY	"	SEC. FUEL	
ENRICHARRE. R.	11-2-73	1840	SEC. HT. CROSS	"	GRASS	
ANGLESIA. U.	4-4-73	2025	SAGGY	"	SEC. FUEL	1972-73 = 12
QUEENSLIFF. U.	27-1-74	1100	"	"	SEC. FUEL	
CABLEDALE. R.	3-3-74	1920	DIRTY INSUL.	"	"	
TREQUAY. R.	3-3-74	1900	"	"	"	
CABLEDALE. R.	14-3-74	0815	"	"	"	
MANNINGHAM. R.	5-3-74	0815	"	"	"	
FRESHWATER CR. R.	8-3-74	1230	"	"	"	
"	9-3-74	0150	"	"	"	
CABLEDALE. R.	9-3-74	0330	"	"	"	
FRESHWATER CR. R.	9-3-74	0430	"	"	"	
"	9-3-74	1009	"	"	"	
"	9-4-74	1640	"	"	"	
LARA. U.	10-3-74	2259	"	"	"	
"	22-4-74	2115	"	"	"	

(2)

BRIGADE	DATE	TIME	PERMANENT CAUSE	SIZE OF FIRE	TYPE OF FIRE	REMARKS
QUEENSLIFT. U.	9-3-74	1100	DISTY INSOL.	SPRT.	SEC POLE	
"	"	1630	"	"	"	
LARA	22-3-74		"	"	"	
ANGLESSEA. U.	18-4-74	0700	"	"	"	
SILVERHALLS. R.	7-3-74	1515	"	SMALL	GRASS.	
"	21-3-74	1115	"	SPRT	"	1973-74 = 19
BARRIBOOL. R.	29-3-74	1920	"	"	SEC POLE	
QUEENSLIFT. U.	1-12-74	2000	"	"	"	
LITTLE RIVER. R.	28-12-74	2100	"	"	GRASS	
LEOPOLD.	1-12-74	1225	"	"	SEC POLE	
"	4-1-75	0330	"	"	"	
WARRINGTON. R.	2-2-75	2140	"	"	GRASS	
BARKLY TOWER. R.	2-2-75	1300	SEC TREES	SMALL	SCRUB	
TERQUINY. R.	23-2-75	0220	DISTY INSOL.	SPRT.	SEC POLE GRASS	21
CLEAN GULL. U.	11-2-75	2130	"	"	SEC POLE	
BARKLY TOWER. R.	31-2-75	1315	"	"	GRASS	
NEPELHILL. R.	24-2-75	0615	"	"	SEC POLE	
LITTLE RIVER. R.	27-2-75	1430	"	"	"	
CLEAN GULL. U.	28-2-75	0015	"	"	"	
ST LEONARDS. R.	6-3-75	1430	GRASS TREES	"	SEC POLE GRASS	
INVERLIGH. R.	3-3-75	0500	DISTY INSOL.	"	SEC POLE	
LEOPOLD. U.	3-3-75	0545	"	"	"	
CONNORSWALL. R.	27-2-75	0500	"	"	"	
DUNDAS. U.	12-3-75	1330	"	"	"	
WARRINGTON. R.	15-3-75	1415	GRASS TREES SEC TREES	"	GRASS	
QUEENSLIFT. U.	8-3-75	0830	DISTY INSOL.	"	SEC POLE	
TRANS BARRA. R.	22-2-75	1130	"	"	GRASS	1974-75 = 21
WIMBORNE. R.	4-1-76	1500	SEC TREES GRASS	MED	GRASS	→ Could have been much worse.
BARRIBOOL. R.	5-1-76	1515	"	SPRT	"	
CLEAN GULL. U.	4-1-76	1705	DISTY INSOL.	"	SEC POLE	
CONHILL. R.	5-1-76	0210	"	"	"	
GREENHILL. R.	15-1-76	2000	"	"	"	
ANGLESSEA. U.	4-1-76	2015	"	"	"	
MIMBARUM. R.	14-1-76	1200	SEC TREES	"	GRASS	
QUEENSLIFT. U.	4-1-76	1640	START	"	SEC POLE	

3

BRANCH	DATE	TIME	PROGRAM CAUSE	SIZE OF FLEE	TYPE OF FIRE	REMARKS
GULLENSCITTF. LI.	4-1-76	1645	SAGA	5707	DR. FEEL	
LARA R.	21-1-76	0210	"	"	"	
ST. LEONARDS. R.	15-1-76	1215	"	"	"	
OCEAN GROVE. LI.	25-1-76	0610	DIRTY INSUL S-1002	"	"	
ST. LEONARDS. R.	25-1-76	0432	"	"	"	
CALLINGTON. R.	16-1-76	0020	"	"	"	
DIANNGRUI R.	26-1-76	0050	"	"	"	
LEOPOLD R.	5-2-76	0605	"	"	"	
"	5-2-76	0100	"	"	"	
DRYSDALE LI.	1-2-76	1028	"	"	"	
WINDHOLDA	6-2-76	2300	"	"	"	
GRUL. DALE R.	5-2-76	1520	"	"	"	
"	7-2-76	1000	"	"	"	
LEOPOLD. LI.	6-2-76	0200	"	"	"	
LANGRUE R.	17-2-76	0930	"	"	"	
FRANCAHLA CKA. R.	24-2-76	1110	"	"	"	
DIANNGRUI R.	20-2-76	0020	"	"	DRY FEEL GRASS	
GRUL. DALE R.	24-2-76	0045	"	"	DRY FEEL	
GNARLHARIE R.	26-2-76	0615	"	"	"	
LITTLE RIVER. R.	16-2-76	0025	"	"	"	
CONINGSBARRE. R.	18-2-76	1000	"	"	"	
LELBY HILLS. R.	4-3-76	1630	DRY INSUL	1120	GRASS	
PORTARLINGTON. R.	13-3-76	0119	DIRTY INSUL	5707	DRY FEEL	
"	15-3-76	0400	"	"	"	
ANGLESEA. LI.	6-3-76	0050	"	"	"	
ENARLHARIE. R.	12-3-76	1130	"	"	"	
ANANIA R.	6-3-76	1230	"	"	"	
BIRLEIGHA. R.	19-1-76	1100	FLAMEN WIND	"	DRY FEEL GRASS	
PLASTICATOR CKA. R.	11-11-76	1135	DIRTY INSUL	"	DRY FEEL	
LEOPOLD	10-3-76	0310	"	"	"	
ST. LEONARDS. R.	11-3-76	1115	"	"	"	
GREVEDALE. R.	22-4-76	0330	"	"	"	
PORTARLINGTON. LI.	22-4-76	0630	"	"	"	
ST. LEONARDS. R.	13-3-76	1000	"	"	"	
TERBUAY. R.	23-4-76	0230	"	"	"	

4

BRIGADE	DATE	TIME	ALARM CLASS	SIZE OF FIRE	TYPE OF FIRE	REMARKS
LARA. R.	31-5-76	1525	DIRTY INSUL.	SPT.	SEE PAGE	
BARREN HEADS. U.	21-11-76	1100	" "	"	" "	
QUEENSLAND. U.	9-6-76	0215	" "	"	" "	1975-76 = 46
ST. LEONARDS. R.	3-7-76	1300	" "	"	" "	
TERQUAY. R.	28-7-76	2045	" "	"	" "	
LARA. U.	4-10-76	0513	" "	"	" "	
ANGLESEA.	2-1-77	23-1	" "	"	" "	
LAWNINGTON. R.	15-1-77	1400	SEE PAGE TINA DOUG.	"	GRASS, DIRTY FLOOR BINNIES.	
MANNINGRIDG. R.	1-2-77	0535	DIRTY INSUL.	"	SEE PAGE	
LARA. R.	8-2-77	1742	" "	"	SEE PAGE	
LEATHERIDGE. R.	28-12-76	1400	" "	"	" "	
QUEENSLIFF. U.	1-2-77	2320	" "	"	" "	
LITTLE RIVER. R.	12-2-77	1602	SEE PAGE LEASHING	MAJOR	GRASS.	
CEFFAN-GOGE. U.	26-3-77	2255	DIRTY INSUL.	SPT.	SEE PAGE	
ST. LEONARDS. R.	23-2-77	0300	" "	"	" "	1976 to date = 12

COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY

REGION 12.

Fire Statistics - Fires caused by, or involving S.E.C., Transmission Equipment.

Date.	Brigade	Time	Type of Fire	Size	Cause.
11/12/69	Tallarook	2330	Tree	Spot	Power lines rubbing in branches
8/ 1/71	Heathcote	1030	Tree & Grass	Spot	" "
30/ 1/71	Alexandra	2130	Tree & Grass	Spot	Tree over power lines.
18/10/71	Broadford		Pole	Spot	Unknown.
15/ 2/72	Eildon		Pole	Spot	Unknown.
7/ 1/ 74	Eildon		Grass	Spot	Powerline.
1/ 2/74	Flowerdale	1135	Scrub	Spot	Powerline.
27/12/74	Eildon	1225	Grass	Spot	Powerlines.
10/ 2/75	Taggerty	1630	Scrub	Spot	Powerlines.
8/ 5/75	Eildon	0950	Pole	Spot	Short circuit.
4/ 2/76	Yarck	2230	Grass	Medium	Powerlines.
6/ 3/76	Broadford	1800	Grass	Medium	Pole.
14/12/76	Avenel	2207	Grass	Medium	Crossarm broke: 1 Fatality.
22/12/76	Glenaroua	1330	Grass	Small	Branches blown over powerline.
14/ 1/77	Pyalong	0030	Pole	Spot	Burning Crossarm.
16/ 1/77	Yea	2045	Grass	Small	Broken crossarm 22Kv. line.
29/ 1/77	Seymour	1940	Grass	Large	Branchfell on H.V. line.
29/ 1/77	Yarck	1630	Grass	Small	Powerlines arcing.
1/ 2/77	Yarck	1500	Grass	Spot	Powerlines arcing.
1/ 2/77	Eildon	1650	Grass	Small	Powerlines arcing.
1/ 2/77	Eildon	2115	Grass	Spot	Powerlines arcing.
3/ 2/77	Avenel	1154	Grass	Spot	Pole.
3/ 2/77	Acheron		Pole	Spot	Brace arced on fuse.
3/ 2/77	Acheron		Pole	Spot	Rekindling of previous fire.
12/ 2/77	Taggerty	1745	Grass	Spot	Arcing of private service.

FIRES IN REGION 15 SINCE 1ST JANUARY 1969

Probable causes to do with S.E.C.

Information taken from Fire Occurrence Records

Total Number of Fires: 50

Break up as follows:-

Lines touching - 14
Lines falling to ground - 3
Contact with trees - 9
Fuses - 3
Pole fires - 13
Birds and cars - 5
Burning off by S.E.C. - 2
Maintenance Crews - 1

	<u>BRIGADE</u>	<u>REPORT</u> <u>NO.</u>	<u>TIME</u> <u>hrs.</u>	<u>AREA</u>	<u>CAUSE</u>
<u>8/1/69</u>	Miner's Rest	8	0900	2 ha.	Power lines touching
<u>8/1/69</u>	Sneaton	56	0915		Grass - spot Trees over power line
<u>8/1/69</u>	Mt. Cameron (CAMPBELL TOWN FIRE)	8	0945	28,350 ha.	Wire fell to ground
<u>8/1/69</u>	Learmonth	34	1000		Grass - spot Trees over S.E.C. lines
<u>8/1/69</u>	Newstead	59	1350	120 ha.	Grass & hay shed Power lines touching
<u>8/1/69</u>	Wendouree		1100		Grass and spot S.E.C. lines touching
<u>8/1/69</u>	Miner's Rest	16	1150		Grass - spot S.E.C. lines touching
28/12/69	Carisbrook	3	1200		Grass and pole - spot S.E.C. lined touching tree.
30/1/70	Wallace	63	1240		Grass - spot fire S.E.C. fuse Damaged equipment sent to Melbourne for investigation.
15/2/70	Waubra	40	0600		Tree S.E.C. wires touching
15/2/70	Miner's Rest	36	2315		Hedge - spot S.E.C. wire in hedge
25/1/71	Moolort		1400		Grass and spot Birds in S.E.C. lines
26/1/72	Daylesford	29	1650		Grass and scrub - spo Broken line
<u>20/2/71</u>	Scarsdale	19	1830		Pole fire
9/2/72	Lindon		1500		Grass - spot S.E.C. fuse
8/4/72	Newstead	15	1220		Grass - spot S.E.C. burn off
3/5/72	Elaine	1	1000		Tree S.E.C. burn off
17/7/72	Miner's Rest	18	1800		Pole top fire
23/12/72	Mt. Buninyong		1350		Grass - spot Trees on Power Lines
16/1/73	Waubra	11	1930		Grass and spot Tree on power line
17/1/73	Scarsdale	14	0130		Pole fire
11/1/74	Gardigan	21	1500		Grass - spot Fallen S.E.C. wire
26/5/74	Clunes	8	1230		Tree S.E.C. wires in contact with tree

<u>17/1/75</u>	Newstead		1630		S.E.C. pole
<u>29/1/75</u>	Mannibadar	6	1915		Grass fire - spot S.E.C. lines touching
<u>26/2/75</u>	Ascot	20	2300		Grass - spot Swan hit power lines
<u>30/4/75</u>	Moolort		0510		S.E.C. pole
<u>4/1/76</u>	Clunes	21	1600	5 ha.	Grass and hay S.E.C. wires touching
<u>4/1/76</u>	Carisbrook	43	1530	50 ha.	Grass S.E.C. pole fire
<u>4/1/76</u>	Scarsdale	26	1420		Grass spot fire Trees over power line
<u>5/1/76</u>	Kyneton	49	0030		Tree Car hit S.E.C. pole
<u>6/1/76</u>	Clunes	22	1330	5 ha.	Grass S.E.C. wires touching
<u>5/2/76</u>	Wallace	25	0930		Grass - spot S.E.C. pole
<u>17/2/76</u>	Napoleons	10	1400	100 ha.	Grass S.E.C. worker on maintenance work.
<u>6/3/76</u>	Scarsdale	33	0545		Pole fire
<u>7/3/76</u>	Mannibadar		1930		Pole fire
<u>29/3/76</u>	Campbells Ck.	24	1455		Grass and spot Crane hitting power line.
<u>4/11/76</u>	Newlyn-Dean	28	1200		Pole fire
<u>6/12/76</u>	Newstead	68	1540		Grass fire - spot S.E.C. wires touching
<u>18/12/76</u>	Carisbrook	2	2140		Grass - spot S.E.C. lines touching
<u>5/2/77</u>	Smeaton		1930		Grass - spot S.E.C. insulator broken
<u>12/2/77</u>	Cardigan		1300	55 ha.	Grass S.E.C. wires touching
<u>12/2/77</u>	Newtown		1310		Grass - spot S.E.C. pole fire
<u>12/2/77</u> (VERNETH-CRESSY FIRE)	Wallinduc	16	1350		Grass and large fire S.E.C. fuse
<u>12/2/77</u>	Waubra	43	1445	1300 ha.	Grass & Scrub S.E.C. wires touching Trees involved
<u>12/2/77</u>	Springhill	5	1445		Grass & spot S.E.C. wires touching
<u>13/2/77</u>	Newlyn-Dean	34	0400		Pole fire

25/2/77	Newlyn-Dean	38	1730	5 ha	Grass S.E.C. wires touching
6/4/77	Moolort	15	1000		Grass - spot S.E.C. Pole
• 29/1/77	Kooroocheang	12	1430		Grass - spot S.E.C. fuse

R.W. Dixon
Regional Officer

FIRES IN REGION 16 FROM 2nd AUGUST 1969
WHICH ARE SUSPECTED TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY
S.E.C. POWER LINES OR INSTALLATION

<u>DATE</u>	<u>BRIGADE</u>	<u>REPORTS NO.</u>	<u>TYPE OF FIRE</u>	<u>DETAILS OF CAUSE</u>
1/1/70	Amphitheatre	21	Grass ½ Ac.	Trees fell on Power Line
18/2/70	Maroona	40	Grass 12 Ac.	S.E.C. Line in contact with tree branch.
19/2/71	Ararat Urban	4	Grass	S.E.C. Pole Fuse
2/1/73	Lake Bolac	9	Grass	Fallen Power Lines.
6/1/73	Willaura Urban	5	Grass	S.E.C. Power Lines.
11/2/73	Amphitheatre	13	Grass	Fallen Wire.
2/12/73	Stawell Urban	76	Building	High winds caused tree to fall and bring down S.E.C. Line.
2/12/73	Stawell Rural	26	Grass	Tree Over Power Line.
3/1/74	Lake Bolac	17	Grass	S.E.C. Pole Top Fire.
27/12/74	Amphitheatre	22	Grass	S.E.C. Wires.
21/1/75	Ararat Rural	44	Grass	S.E.C.
5/3/75	Stawell Rural	51	Forest	Fallen Power Line. 3.
11/12/75	Lexton	20	Grass	S.E.C. Fault
13/1/76	Maroona	3	Grass	S.E.C. Fault
14/2/76	Streatham	2	Grass	S.E.C. Fault
15/2/76	Stawell Rural	72	Grass	Fallen Power Line.
4/2/76	Skipton	6	Grass	S.E.C. Power Line.
4/3/76	Mininera	3	Pole & Grass	Cross Arm Fire.
21/4/76	Great Western	29	Grass	S.E.C. Power Line.
14/12/76	Wallaloo East	9	Grass	Pole Cap Lifted Off, Line came down on Cattle.
23/12/76	Ararat Rural		Pole	Broken Cross Arm.
7/2/77	Streatham	6	Grass	S.E.C. Lines.
9/2/77	Callawidda	28	Grass	S.E.C. Power Lines.
12/2/77	Avoca	53	Grass	Power Lines.
12/2/77	Ararat Urban	82	Grass	Broken Power Line.
13/1/77	Great Western	22	Grass	Broken S.E.C. Power Line.
29/1/77	Amphitheatre	51	Grass	S.E.C. Wires.
26/2/77	Stawell		Pole	Pole Top Fire.
12/2/77	Tatyoon		Grass	Tree Fell on Power Line.
				TOTAL ... 29.

REGION 4

FIRE OCCURANCES

<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>CALLS</u>	<u>S.E.C.</u>
1.7.1968 - 30.6.1969	56	3
1.7.1969 - 30.6.1970	71	2
1.7.1970 - 30.6.1971	113	10
1.7.1971 - 30.6.1972	115	1
1.7.1972 - 30.6.1973	187	4
1.7.1973 - 30.6.1974	127	7
1.7.1974 - 30.6.1975	170	14
1.7.1975 - 30.6.1976	165	7
1.7.1976 - Date	131	15
	<u>1135</u>	<u>53</u>

REGION 5

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>NO. OF FIRES REPORTED</u>	<u>NO. S.E.C. SUSPECTED CAUSE</u>
1969	90	15
1970	170	9
1971	130	2
1972	247	15
1973	208	25
1974	231	30
1975	231	20
1976	253	31
1977 (to date)	111	26
	<u>1671</u>	<u>173</u>

REGION 6

1969	53	9
1970	93	9
1971	104	2
1972	166	10
1973	142	20
1974	160	9
1975	162	20
1976	222	22
1977 (to date)	104	17
	<u>1206</u>	<u>118</u>

2.

1206

118

REGION 7

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>NO. OF FIRES REPORTED</u>	<u>NO. OF S.E.C. SUSPECTED</u>
26.9.71 - 30.6.72	131	9
1.7.72 - 30.6.73	297	12
1.7.73 - 30.6.74	208	19
1.7.74 - 30.6.75	364	21
1.7.75 - 30.6.76	356	46
1.7.76 - 30.6.77(to date)	320	12
	<u>1676</u>	<u>119</u>

REGION 12

1969-70	110	1
1970-71	192	2
1971-72	128	2
1972-73	135	0
1073-74	78	2
1074-75	234	3
1975-76	273	2
1976-77(to date)	<u>218</u>	<u>13</u>
	1368	25

REGION 15

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>NO. OF FIRES REPORTED</u>	<u>NO. OF S.E.C. SUSPECTED</u>
1969	119	8
1970	140	3
1971	192	2
1972	226	6
1973	147	2
1974	145	2
1975	305	4
1976	165	13
1977 (to date)	<u>326</u>	<u>10</u>
	1665	50

REGION 16

3.

1969/70	56	2
1970/71	166	1
1971/72	122	0
1972/73	156	3
1973/74	146	3
1974/75	260	3
1975/76	270	7
1976/77 (to date)	192	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1368	29

Fl.

TIMBER, GRASS, SCRUB FIRES ATTENDED 12TH FEBRUARY, 1977

RURAL REPORTS

REGION	BRIGADE	ARRIVAL	CEASED	TYPE	SUSPECT CAUSE
4	Coleraine	0918	0940	Timber	Unknown.
4	Coleraine	1110	1330	Grass	S.E.C.
4	Merino	1032		Grass	S.E.C.
4	Mepunga East			Grass	S.E.C.
5	Naringal	1530	1615	Timber	S.E.C.
5	Woodhouse	1100	1200	Plantation	S.E.C.
5	Mortlake	1315	1515	Grass	S.E.C.
5	Hawkesdale	1330	1400	Timber	S.E.C.
5	Strathmore	1320	1830	Grass	S.E.C.
5	Nth. Byaduk	1222	1515	Grass	S.E.C.
5	Penshurst	1305	1840	Grass	Unknown.
6	Weerite	1430	1530	Grass/Building	S.E.C.
6	Cressy	1130	1200	Grass	Vic. Railways.
6	Boorcan	1500	1530	Grass	S.E.C.
6	Weering-Emak (Beeac)	1430	1723	Grass	S.E.C.
6	Lismore/Mingay	1500	1800	Grass	S.E.C.
7	Little River/Balliang	1602		Grass	S.E.C.
8	Phillip Island	1730	1800	Grass	Car Exhaust.
8	Phillip Island	2315	0246	Grass/Vehicle	Vehicle
(13/2/77)					
8	Baxter	1230	1245	Grass	Unknown.
8	Flinders	2150	2320	Scrub	Unknown.
8	Somerville	1820	1920	Grass	Deliberate.
8	Baxter	1735	2000	Grass	Unknown.
9	Trafalgar	1415	1500	Grass	Cigarette.
10	Valencia Creek	1500	1800	Grass/Scrub	Unknown.
11	Mallacoota	2045	2230	Scrub	Unknown.
13	Warrandyte	1755	1820	Scrub	Children.
13	Mt. Evelyn	1825	1840	Grass	S.E.C.
13	Mt. Evelyn	1835	1840	Grass	S.E.C.
13	Hoddles Creek	0655	0800	Windrow	Previous burn.
13	Upper Ferntree Gully	1933	1950	Grass	Arson.
13	Rowville	1930	1945	Grass	Unknown.
13	Hoddles Creek	2130	2245	Windrow	Previous burn.
14	Macedon	1530	1700	Scrub	S.E.C.
14	Sydenham	1635	1700	Scrub	S.E.C.
14	Epping	1703	1901	Scrub	Mini Bikes.
14	Romsey	1500	1503	Timber	Previous burn.
14	Greenvale	1450	1745	Plantation	S.E.C.
15	Cardigan	1300	1700	Grass	S.E.C.
15	Spring Hill	1445		Grass	S.E.C.
15	Carisbrook	1300	1500	Grass	Unknown.

15.	Carisbrook	1310	1400	Grass	Unknown.
15	Tylden	1645	0250	Scrub	Deliberate.
15	Scarsdale	1310	(13/2/77) 1700	Grass/Scrub	S.E.C.
15	Greendale	1820	1915	Grass	Cigarette.
15	Werneth-Crassy	1350	2000	Grass	S.E.C.
15	Waubra	1445	1843	Grass	S.E.C.
15	Creswick	1310	2045	Grass/Forest	Deliberate.
16	Avoca	1405	1700	Scrub	S.E.C.
16	Marnoo	1310	1320	Grass	Unknown.
16	Pura Pura	1255	1645	Grass	S.E.C.
16	Tatyoan/Streathen	1320	1952	Grass	S.E.C.
19	Inglewood	2330		Grass	Unknown
21	Woodstock West	1520	1630	Grass	S.E.C.
23	Wangaratta South	1655	1830	Grass/Scrub	Unknown.
26	Hampden Park	1812	1819	Grass	Children.
26	Keysborough	1605		Grass	Unknown.

URBAN REPORTS

1	Ballarat	1550	1600	Grass	Unknown.
1	Ballarat City	1438	1509	Grass	Children.
2	Bendigo	0058	0109	Grass	Unknown.
3	Geelong City	1552	1618	Grass	Unknown.
4	Portland	1210	1240	Grass	S.E.C.
5	Hamilton	1325	1420	Grass	S.E.C.
8	Cranbourne	1925	2020	Grass	Unknown.
8	Dromana	1940	2010	Timber	S.E.C.
9	Moe	1456	1515	Grass	Unknown.
10	Sale	2000	2045	Grass	Deliberate.
13	Lilydale	1705	1720	Grass	S.E.C.
13	Montrose	1140	1215	Grass	Unknown.
13	Scoresby	1532	1552	Grass	Cigarette.
13	Upwey	0937	0958	Grass	S.E.C.
14	Bacchus Marsh	1855	1915	Grass	Unknown.
14	Melton	1745	2015	Grass	Unknown.
14	Sunbury	1528	1536	Grass	Unknown.
16	Stawell	1525	1630	Grass	Unknown.
22	Mooroopna		50 min	Grass	S.E.C.

duration.

F2.

ANALYSIS OF FIRE CAUSES 12.2.77

	<u>RURAL</u>	<u>URBAN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Unknown	14	10	24
S.E.C.	28	6	34
Railways	1	-	1
Car Exhaust)	1	-	1
Vehicle)	1	-	1
Deliberate	4	1	5
Cigarette	2	1	3
Children	2	1	3
Previous Burn	3	-	3
Mini Bike	1	-	1
	<u>57</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>76</u>

TOTAL FINE BAN DAYS 1968/69 to 1976/77

<u>SEASON</u>		<u>TOTAL FOR SEASON</u>
<u>1968/69</u>	8/1/69	
	9/1/69	
	11/1/69	
	12/1/69	
	17/1/69	
	18/1/69	
	20/1/69	
	21/1/69	
	22/1/69	
	25/1/69	
	31/1/69	
	20/2/69	.. <u>12</u>
<u>1969/70</u>	22/12/69	
	9/1/70	
	23/1/70	
	4/2/70	
	5/2/70	
	6/2/70	
	8/2/70	
	9/2/70	
	18/2/70	
	3/3/70	.. <u>10</u>
<u>1970/71</u>	26/12/70	
	8/1/71	
	11/1/71	
	15/1/71	
	16/2/71	
	19/2/71	
	20/2/71	
	26/2/71	.. <u>8</u>
<u>1971/72</u>	2/2/72	
	10/2/72	.. <u>2</u>
<u>1972/73</u>	2/12/72	
	14/12/72	
	15/12/72	
	19/12/72	
	20/12/72	
	21/12/72	
	29/12/72	
	2/1/73	
	3/1/73	
	12/1/73	
	13/1/73	
	18/1/73	
	19/1/73	
	20/1/73	
	21/1/73	
	24/1/73	.. <u>16</u>
<u>1973/74</u>	4/1/74	
	31/1/74	
	1/2/74	
	11/2/74	
	16/2/74	
	3/3/74	.. <u>6</u>

1974/75

20/1/75
28/1/75
29/1/75
30/1/75
31/1/75
1/2/75
2/2/75
6/2/75
7/2/75
8/2/75
18/2/75
19/2/75
2/3/75

..

13

1975/76

4/1/76
19/1/76
31/1/76
1/2/76
13/2/76
14/2/76
17/2/76
18/2/76

..

8

1976/77

22/12/76
31/12/76
20/1/77
9/2/77
11/2/77
12/2/77

..

6

0.

Notes, analysis and opinion

1. In the 1969 fires, it is reasonable to assume that where the cause is stated as “electrical” probably half of these will be due (on hot windy days) to the private power lines of SEC customers. SEC set the standard for private power lines, and 1969 was a time when “spreaders” were not required for them, nor were they required to go underground..

2. If it is possible for CFA to review all the fire reports for 8/1/69 and 12/2/77, it would be useful to determine how many of the “unknown” or “unspecified” started in an exposed location, at a time of high gusty winds, and how many of them started within 30 metres of bare power lines. Those fires could then reasonably be assumed to have had power lines as a potential or even likely cause.

3. These statistics seem to demonstrate that in the late 1960s and 1970s the S.E.C.'s rural electricity infrastructure was responsible for five to ten percent of all fires in the western half of Victoria. The 2009 Bushfires Royal Commission was told that in the latter years of the 20th century only one percent of fires were being caused by powerlines. Either the S.E.C. did a commendable job fixing the problem before it was privatized in 1994^[1], or somehow the “goal posts” of what is regarded as causation by electricity distribution assets have moved. The 2009 Bushfires Royal Commission heard evidence from engineering experts that **the rural electricity distribution network is going to become more fire-prone as it ages up to and beyond its service life**. This is of particular concern for very old and inefficient Single Wire Earth Return (S.W.E.R.) high voltage power lines.

4. Objective Data: In future, if CFA volunteers were required to keep diaries of their call-outs every summer, making an entry of what **they** thought was the cause of each fire, we would very quickly have valuable statistical data to verify or refute the electricity industry's claim to be causing only one percent of CFA's fires in recent years. Volunteers whose “day job” is with the electricity industry would be excluded from such a survey. Further, they would be required not to discuss cause with other members attending any fire, and especially required not to have any influence on the writing-up of the fire report.

5. It is remarkable how few arson cases feature in the statistics. It is enough to make a reasonable person wonder whether the culture of delinquent male youths has changed over the past 33 years, or if the police force's heavy focus on costly arson investigations – in terms of man-hours of interviewing and form-filling – is somehow a sop to the Police Association's members and their overtime payments. Since Black Saturday 2009, it has been an extremely high-profile aspect of Task Force Phoenix for Victoria Police to hold several media conferences chronicling the number of interviews completed, the number of members being deployed, the number of man-hours expended, in their quest to find an arsonist.

6. There has been no obvious commensurate effort on the part of Victoria Police to bring to justice the people responsible for the 119 deaths caused by the high voltage span 38-39 that broke at Kilmore East, 7th February 2009.

M. Gunter
North Melbourne
January 2011

1 Presumably by the deployment of modern silicone-filled HRC fuses and plastic “spreaders” on low voltage lines.