Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to Streamline WA. The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) is progressing a number of regulatory reforms to legislation and process to modernise regulation and promote efficiencies by working across all stakeholder groups. These reforms include:


   The broad aim of developing a single piece of emergency services legislation is to amalgamate three outdated Emergency Services Acts into one comprehensive contemporary Act which will simplify the current emergency services legislation and the provision of emergency services by eliminating duplication and overlap of effort.

2. **Bushfire Regulation Amendments, Total Fire Ban Exemptions** - The Bush Fires Act 1954 (the Act) allows for exemptions to be issued on Total Fire Ban Days. Amendments to the regulations will streamline the approval process and will benefit stakeholders by providing exemptions to stakeholders who follow the provisions for exemption which will be set out in the regulations.

3. **Rural Fire Reform Package** – DFES continues to progress the implementation of the rural fire reform package to strengthen the coordination and oversight of state investment in bushfire mitigation and drive long-term improvements to service delivery across the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery spectrum. The reforms include:

   - The creation of a new Rural Fire Division and Bushfire Centre of Excellence within DFES, along with substantial new investment in bushfire prevention, with an additional $15 million to extend the Bushfire Risk Management Planning Program and $35 million to fund mitigation activities, and a range of new support measures for volunteers.
   - The establishment of the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) Referral and Grants Advisory Committee to provide independent scrutiny regarding the ESL and associated grants processes.
   - The creation of an interdepartmental committee to develop a whole-of-government, risk-based approach to prioritising strategic bushfire mitigation activities on Crown land.
Whilst I understand you have already been in touch with our agency point of contact, Ms Terri Kurtis, Director Legal, Policy and Compliance (terri.kurtis@dfes.wa.gov.au), please do not hesitate to contact us for any further detail.

Yours sincerely

DARREN KLEMM AFSM
COMMISSIONER

8 April 2019