

To: SCEW Secretariat

Subject: Submission on Wood Heater Consultation

re submission on the the Federal Government Wood Heater Consultation Regulation Impact Statement

The wood smoke pollution problem is very much like the passive smoking problem only more difficult for individuals to avoid if you happen to live in an area where it is a problem. Because health effects are mostly insidious people do not always make the connection. When I relocated from a “clean area” in Perth (there are areas of Perth where wood smoke pollution is a problem), to picture perfect, pristine [REDACTED] I did not factor in the impact of all that smoke. I have lived here now for 5 years and every winter is bad for me as I have a terrible reaction to the smoke. In [REDACTED] people are allowed and indeed encouraged to burn garden waste creating enormous amounts of smoke over whole neighbourhoods. Add to this the popularity of solid fuel heating with unmonitored smoky chimneys and it’s often difficult to find clean air to breathe. I have spent a heap of money on medication and doctor’s consultations in the last 5 years and now carry a filter mask whenever I am outdoors. Please can some enlightened person take notice of all the evidence and do something about the wood smoke pollution problem .

How is it that Governments can justify granting Medicare rebates for Chiropractic consultations, where there is no evidence to support there is any benefit apart from placebo, and ignore solid evidence for the damage wood smoke pollution has on the health of entire populations.

Sincerely

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