Earlier comments start at the bottom of the page….thank you.

Dear Clive

Thank you for that. Yes, we will keep you informed as soon as we’re able.

Cheers

Alasdair

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Alasdair Wells

Section Head, Environmental Policy and Support Services

EPA Tasmania, DPIPWE

134 Macquarie St (6th Floor, Lands Building)

Ph: (03) 6165 4536

email: alasdair.wells@epa.tas.gov.au

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**From:** cleanair <cleanair@cleanairtas.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 22 January 2019 2:24 PM

**To:** Read, Martin (EPA) <Martin.Read@epa.tas.gov.au>

**Cc:** Wells, Alasdair (EPA) <Alasdair.Wells@epa.tas.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Wood Heater Enquiries

Dr Dr Read,

Thank you for the update.

Can I just say I am appreciative of the work performed by all EPA members in relation to air quality.

Would you please be so kind to keep me informed of progress with the new Regulations?

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Clive Stott

**From:** Read, Martin (EPA) [mailto:Martin.Read@epa.tas.gov.au]

**Sent:** Tuesday, 22 January 2019 10:50 AM

**To:** cleanair@cleanairtas.com**Cc:** Wells, Alasdair (EPA) <Alasdair.Wells@epa.tas.gov.au>

**Subject:** Wood Heater Enquiries

Dear Mr Stott

Thank you again for your patience in regard to this issue and apologies for the delay in response.

In regard to your recent correspondence with myself and Alasdair Wells, I can report that we have been carefully reviewing the information you have provided to us this year in relation to wood heater compliance, together with associated information you have provided as part of the review of the draft Smoke Regulations. We thank you for your detailed analysis – with the other submissions and information we have received, it is all very useful as we continue to address air quality issues in Tasmania.

EPA Tasmania has two full-time equivalent positions to deal with this sort of non-level 2 regulation from a compliance and enforcement point of view. Hence, our abilities to follow up all queries is limited, and dependent on priorities at the time.

We have looked into Esk Ridge wood heaters, and while many of the specific references (hyperlinks) you have provided no longer link to ads, we will be ensuring that they, and other like businesses, are reminded of their obligations under the Regulations to ensure wood heaters for sale or manufactured in Tasmania must comply with relevant Regulations (ie Part 2 of the DAE Regulations as you have pointed out).

In terms of the Regulations themselves, the current Regulations are in place and these expire next week and the Government will need to consider what form the new regulations will take. The timing of this is unknown at this stage.

Thank you again for keeping us informed of these matters, and I apologise it has taken a long time to specifically address your queries this year.

Regards

Martin

Dr Martin Read

Deputy Director (EPA Tasmania)

Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

134 Macquarie St (Lands Building)

GPO Box 1550, Hobart, Tas.  7001

p: *(03) 6165 4521*

mobile: *0407 828 360*

email: *Martin.Read@environment.tas.gov.au*

20 January 2019

To: Alasdair.Wells@epa.tas.gov.au

From: cleanair@cleanairtas.com

Dear Alasdair,

It is a while since you wrote to me. Happy New Year.

To recap:

Your Compliance Management Group met sometime after Dr Read wrote to me on the 6th September last year re matters going way back to the beginning of 2018.

My submission into the EPA's 2018 Smoke Regulations Draft raised the fact that parts were not consistent with AS/NZS 4012/13 for Certified Wood Heaters.

There was the matter of new uncertified wood heaters being manufactured and sold in Tasmania.

There was also the matter of non-compliant 2nd hand wood heaters being sold in Tasmania.

Have these breaches been addressed?

Then there was the proposal to allow non-compliant wood heaters to be brought into Tasmania.

And non-compliant faulty wood heaters if sold with a house not having to comply?

I take it by now our Smoke Regulations to go before Parliament will be consistent with all applicable ASNZS standards?

We had the 2017 and 2018 Smoke Regulations drafts released for comment. It is now 2019.

When will all the submissions be published on your website?

When will our new Smoke Regulations be presented to Parliament?

Thank you.

Best regards,

Clive Stott

**From:** Wells, Alasdair (EPA) [mailto:Alasdair.Wells@epa.tas.gov.au]
**Sent:** Friday, 7 December 2018 9:15 AM
**To:** cleanair <cleanair@cleanairtas.com>
**Subject:** RE: Enquiry regarding woodheaters

Dear Clive

Thank you for your email – I understand your clear disappointment and frustration.

I will look into those instances mentioned.

Thank you

Alasdair

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Alasdair Wells

Acting Branch Manager

Policy and Business Branch, EPA Tasmania

Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

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**From:** cleanair <cleanair@cleanairtas.com>
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 December 2018 12:40 PM
**To:** Wells, Alasdair (EPA) <Alasdair.Wells@epa.tas.gov.au>
**Subject:** RE: Enquiry regarding woodheaters

Alasdair Wells

Acting Branch Manager

Policy and Business Branch, EPA Tasmania.

Dear Alasdair,

Thank you for your response.

You acknowledge the EPA is responsible for addressing compliance with standards in Tasmania and that you are not aware of any laboratory that has sought approval of the Director to issue certificates to comply with (wood heater) standards.

You have it on file where I have raised instances of standards non-compliant wood heaters being manufactured and/or sold in Tasmania so the need for you to trawl through Gumtree or other media advertisements is not the issue here.

The EPA has known about this for a lengthy period of time and I would like to know in these instances what has been done about it?

To be blunt I feel EPA Tasmania is making it clear to me that you would rather ignore our AS/NZS standards in relation to compliance for the manufacture, installation, sale and of wood heaters, and rely on your own Regulations to promote an evolution to better quality heaters.

Is this how your Compliance Management Group sees how it works?

Further, the EPA would need to provide me proof that you cannot meet your requirements with regards to complying with standards if you are relying on the fact that you do not have the resources and cannot prioritise non-compliance in this area.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards, Clive Stott

**From:** Wells, Alasdair (EPA) [mailto:Alasdair.Wells@epa.tas.gov.au]
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 December 2018 8:52 AM
**To:** cleanair@cleanairtas.com **Subject:** FW: Enquiry regarding woodheaters

Dear Mr Stott,

Thank you for your queries and patience, and my apologies for the delay in responding.

I have been able to confirm that the EPA Tasmania Compliance Management Group did meet and consider the matters you raised.

Administration of the *EMPC (Distributed Atmospheric Emissions) Regulations 2018* is a shared responsibility of State and Councils. In particular, EPA is responsible for administration of Part 2 of the Regulations, which addresses compliance with standards. I am not aware, however, of any laboratory or facility in Tasmania having sought approval of the Director to issue certificates to help give effect to Part 2 of the Regulations. Therefore national laboratories/facilities that are NATA accredited would need to be relied upon. I should also note that the intent of the Regulations as promoting an evolution to better-quality heaters, and of more efficient use of heaters, to progressively reduce emissions in Tasmania.

In allocating and prioritising our compliance focus, EPA Tasmania is currently unable to resource trawling through Gumtree and other media advertisements, seeking and monitoring sales of wood-heaters in Tasmania. I can advise we will make enquiries when evidence presents of alleged non-compliance with the legislation we are responsible for; again within the constraints of priorities and resource management.

In relation to your question regarding the Smoke Regulations, I understand that the future of regulations relating to smoke management is under careful consideration at this time. We will be advising of the outcome of that and publishing submissions as soon as we are able.

Kind regards

Alasdair

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Alasdair Wells

Acting Branch Manager

Policy and Business Branch, EPA Tasmania

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**From:** cleanair <cleanair@cleanairtas.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, 31 October 2018 12:08 AM
**To:** Read, Martin (EPA) <Martin.Read@epa.tas.gov.au>
**Cc:** 'Jo.Goudie@epa.tas.gov.au:' <Jo.Goudie@epa.tas.gov.au:>; Innis, John (EPA) <John.Innis@epa.tas.gov.au>
**Subject:** FW: Enquiry regarding woodheaters

Good evening Dr Read,

Time marches on.

Can you tell me if the Compliance Management Group has met yet and if so do they have anything to report please?

Perhaps you might also be able to let me know where things stand with finalisation of our Smoke Regulations 2018, and when submissions will be published as promised on your website?

Thank you.

Kind regards, Clive Stott

**From:** Read, Martin (EPA) [mailto:Martin.Read@epa.tas.gov.au]
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 September 2018 4:47 PM
**To:** cleanair@cleanairtas.com
**Cc:** Innis, John (EPA) <John.Innis@epa.tas.gov.au>; Goudie, Jo E (EPA) <Jo.Goudie@epa.tas.gov.au>
**Subject:** Enquiry regarding woodheaters

Dear Mr Stott,

I refer to your correspondence from January and August this year regarding compliance issues with woodheaters advertised for sale, in Tasmania, on the internet.

Firstly, accept my apologies for the time it has taken to respond to you.

The issue has proven to be more complex that may have been initially thought.

Our Compliance Management Group will be shortly be considering the matters you have raised, and we will be in touch with you regarding the outcomes and way forward.

Regards,

Dr Martin Read

Acting Director – Environment Protection Authority

Acting Deputy Secretary (EPA Tasmania), Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

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