

Important Bushfires Update

Dear Member,

A State of Emergency has been declared for NSW by the State Government for the next 7 days due to the bushfires.

Due to the catastrophic fire risk, many schools across NSW that are located in high risk areas will be closed tomorrow. This covers a broad range of areas across the state including parts of Sydney, the Central Coast, Upper Hunter, Blue Mountains, Illawarra and Shoalhaven, in addition to the areas already impacted by the devastating fires.

We wish to remind HSU Members that during this difficult time leave is available to an employee in a case of pressing necessity, those required to care for children, and for those of our members who are RFS and SES volunteers.

- Personal/carer's leave is available where an employee is unable to attend work because of adverse weather conditions which either prevent attendance or threaten life or property.
- Personal/carer's leave is also available if an employee needs to look after their children.
- Community Service Leave (NES) is available for those who are RFS and SES volunteers.

In some cases you may also be entitled to Natural Disaster Leave which is paid leave for employees who are affected directly and personally by natural disasters such as bushfires and floods and are unable to attend the workplace.

If it's unsafe to get to work, don't risk it.

If members need any further assistance, please contact 1300 478 679.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD