In responding to incidents and emergencies, our role is to create confident, safe and resilient communities that have the information needed to recognise potential hazards, like fires and smoke, and know how to respond.

As a way to achieve this, an integrated, state-wide approach to collaborative and coordinated management during events that generate smoke or other emissions was developed in 2015.

That approach is known as the State Smoke Framework.

Find out more about the State Smoke Framework by logging into the EM-COP Library.

Log into EM-COP at cop.em.vic.gov.au to find out more
WHAT IS THE STATE SMOKE FRAMEWORK?

The State Smoke Framework ensures relevant agencies work effectively with each other and the community before, during and after significant and prolonged events that generate smoke or other emissions.

Before

During

After

It helps agencies to identify events that may be significant or prolonged, such as bushfires, coal mine fires, landfill and peat fires, large industrial fires and planned burns.

It also outlines a range of supporting resources, such as standards, guidelines and JSOPs to help agencies respond appropriately to potential risks from smoke or other emissions generated by those events.

Ultimately, the Framework contributes to improved community and responder safety and more confident, safe and resilient communities.

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WHAT RESOURCES SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STATE SMOKE FRAMEWORK?

STANDARDS

- Community Smoke, Air Quality and Health Standard
- Standard for Managing Exposure to Significant Carbon Monoxide Emissions

GUIDELINES

- Deployment of Air Quality Monitoring for Community Health
- Protective Action Decision Guides

TOOLS

- JSOP 03.18 - Incident air monitoring for community health
- JSOP 03.19 - Managing significant community exposures to fine particles from smoke
- JSOP 03.20 - Managing significant community exposures to carbon monoxide from smoke
- Accident Reporting and Guidance Operational System (ARGOS)
- Areal Locations of Hazardous Atmospheres (ALOHA)

COMMUNICATION, ADVICE AND WARNINGS

- www.emergency.vic.gov.au
- Fact sheets
- www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au
- Chief Health Officer alerts and advisories

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

- Posters
- Videos
- Responder training

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The Community Smoke, Air Quality Health Standard is likely to be used in most fires. It sets out the air quality trigger levels for fine particles, PM2.5, and related public health messaging and actions within Victoria’s graduated Fine Particle Response Framework.

### Fine Particle Response Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Air quality categories</th>
<th>PM2.5 24-hour average</th>
<th>Cautionary Health Advice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>0-8</td>
<td>No tailored advice necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>9-25</td>
<td>No tailored advice necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unhealthy for sensitive groups</td>
<td>26-39</td>
<td>People with heart or lung conditions, pregnant women, children and older adults (sensitive groups) should reduce prolonged physical activity. Limit time outdoors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unhealthy All</td>
<td>40-106</td>
<td>Sensitive groups should avoid all physical activity. Everyone else should reduce prolonged physical activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Unhealthy All</td>
<td>107-177</td>
<td>Sensitive groups should avoid all physical activity. Everyone else should avoid prolonged physical activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous High</td>
<td>&gt;177</td>
<td>Sensitive groups should temporarily relocate or remain indoors. Everyone else should avoid physical activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Extreme</td>
<td>&gt;250</td>
<td>Sensitive groups are strongly recommended to temporarily relocate. Everyone should avoid physical activity and remain indoors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can find the Community Smoke, Air Quality Health Standard by logging into the EM-COP library.

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