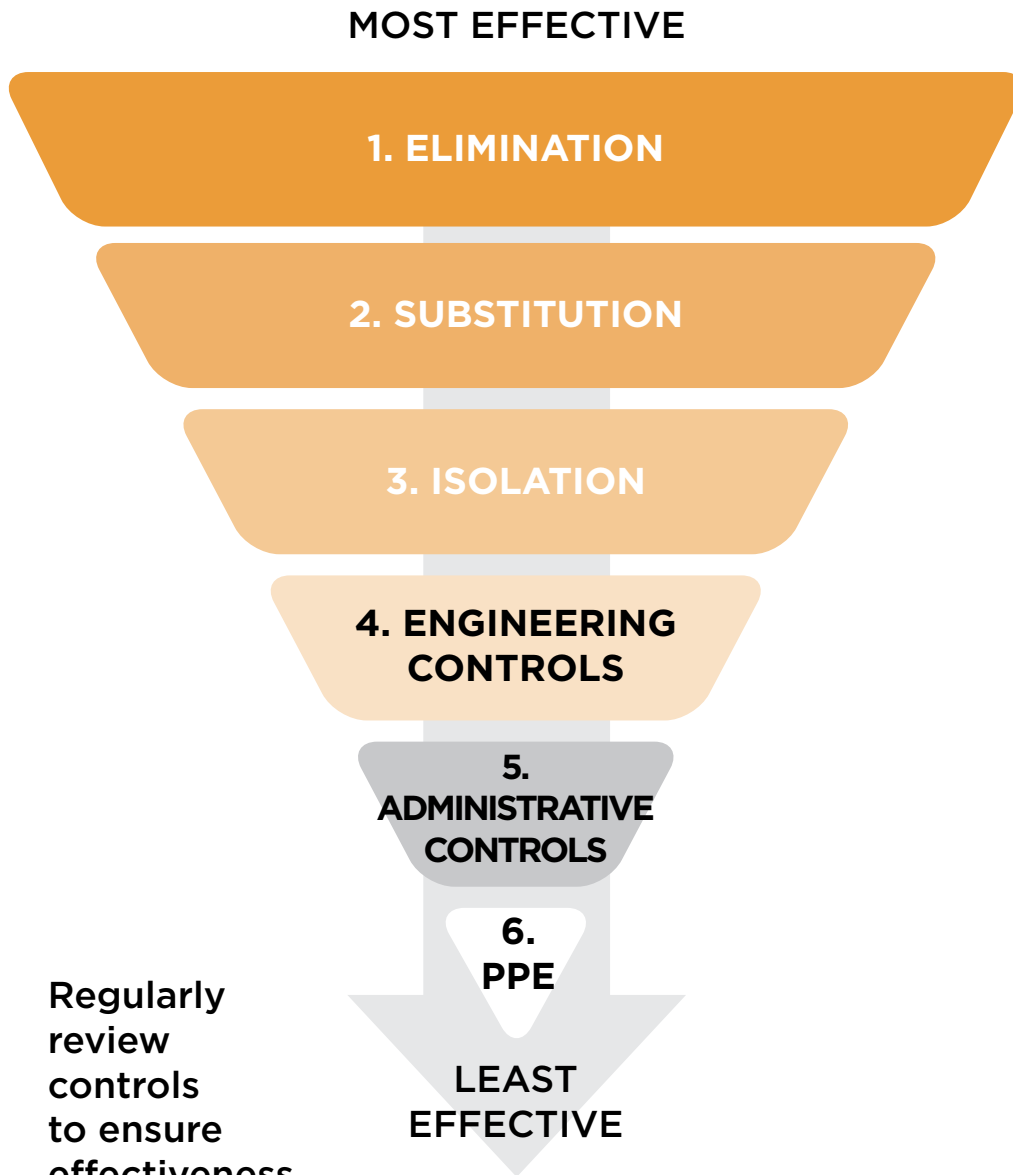


# Bushfire smoke

Managing the risks



## 1. ELIMINATION

Generally it will not be possible to eliminate the risk of bushfires and bushfire smoke.

To ensure you and your workers do not start a bushfire:

- ☀ dispose of cigarette butts and glass safely
- ☀ don't drive vehicles through long grass
- ☀ don't use power tools during a total fire ban

## 2. SUBSTITUTION

Substitute outdoor work using alternative work or modified work including:

- ☀ moving work sites away from smoky areas
- ☀ moving indoors
- ☀ postponing outdoor work
- ☀ timing shifts to avoid smoky periods

## 3. ISOLATION

Isolate indoor workplaces to maintain areas of good air quality:

- ☀ close doors and windows and minimise opening to the outdoors

## 4. ENGINEERING CONTROLS

- ☀ Use closed cab machinery and vehicles
- ☀ When working indoors keep air cleaner by:
  - using air purifiers
  - sealing windows and doors

## 5. ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

- ☀ Have a policy on how to monitor air quality and a plan on what to do when there is smoke
- ☀ If working in smoke, increase breaks in smoke free environments
- ☀ Air out indoor areas when air quality improves
- ☀ Regularly communicate with workers, including those working alone or remotely
- ☀ Implement a system for workers to report smoky work sites
- ☀ Make your first aid officer aware of the health effects from smoke
- ☀ Train workers to work safely and display signs showing what actions to take when there is smoke
- ☀ Clean equipment, including HEPA filters, to reduce built-up of smoke particles/ash

## 6. PPE

- ☀ If working in smoke is unavoidable, provide your workers with:
  - P2 or N95 masks and
  - eye protection