Statement from the Australian Science Media Centre (AusSMC):

"These sorts of comments highlight the difference between opinion and science. News reporting on climate change is often factual and accurate, but what people see in the daily news agenda is a combination of news reports alongside other influential voices, which often do not reflect the scientific evidence. This creates confusion, uncertainty and apathy among the public, even when the science is quite clear.

Experts repeatedly tell us that in recent decades there has been an increase in the length and intensity of the fire weather across much of Australia, and that climate change is contributing to this change (https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/OandA/Areas/Assessing-our-climate/State-of-the-Climate-2018/Report-at-a-glance). We encourage the media to ensure that their narrative reflects the best available evidence."