

COCKBURN CEMENT — HEALTH PROBLEMS

24. Hon LYNN MacLAREN to the Minister for Environment:

- (1) Have any health studies been completed by, or been provided to, the Department of Environment and Conservation on the incidence of nose bleeds, sore throats, sinus problems, watery eyes, stinging eyes and stomach problems for residents within the Cockburn Cement airshed?
- (2) If yes, will the minister table these studies; and, if no, why not?
- (3) How many letters has the minister received to date from residents in the vicinity of Cockburn Cement, including the communities of Beeliar, South Lake, Yangebup, Spearwood and Stamford Gardens, describing adverse effects on their health and amenity?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)–(2) Yes. The Department of Environment and Conservation is aware of a health survey published by the Department of Health in 2004. I understand that the report is available on the Department of Health website. The Department of Health is the lead agency in respect of public health matters, and DEC seeks advice from it on these issues.
- (3) To date, I have received five letters from residents regarding their concerns with emissions from Cockburn Cement.

I advise the member that I have asked for a report from the department in relation to the concerns that have been raised.