

ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE IN WORKPLACES, WORKSAFE RECORDS

2339. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection

I refer the Minister to question on notice No. 1648, asked on 10 June 2003, and ask -

- (a) if neither WorkSafe or the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection keep or maintain records of cases covered in question on notice No. 1648, how can the Department or WorkSafe give effective and reliable advice to employers or employees seeking advice on smoke effected workplaces;
- (b) will the Minister now seek to obtain the information requested in question on notice No. 1648; and
- (c) if not, why not?

Mr J.C. KOBELKE replied:

- (a) WorkSafe does not keep comprehensive records on legal cases related to environmental tobacco smoke in workplaces. WorkSafe is able to give effective and reliable advice on environmental tobacco smoke in workplaces through a combination of information collected from a variety of sources including: monitoring of relevant legal cases, review of relevant scientific literature and participation in national forums such as NOHSC.
- (b) No.
- (c) The information is not essential in order to provide effective and reliable advice.