

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE IN WORKPLACE

1647. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection

I refer the Minister to the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) and ask -

- (a) is Western Australia represented on the above Commission, if so, by whom;
- (b) since 10 February 2001, has Western Australia requested the NOHSC to develop a standard for employee exposure to environmental tobacco smoke;
- (c) if yes, what was the outcome;
- (d) if not, why not;
- (e) since 10 February 2001, has Western Australia requested a national monitoring of atmospheric standards in workplaces, known to have significant smoke levels;
- (f) if yes, what was the outcome; and
- (g) if not, why not?

Mr J.C. KOBELKE replied:

- (a) Yes, by the WorkSafe Western Australia Commissioner, Brian Bradley.
- (b) No.
- (c) N/A.
- (d) The Commissioner had previously requested for NOHSC to develop and adopt an exposure standard in 1999. This request was not agreed because of the public health focus on elimination and the considerable difficulties in identification of specific substances and threshold to be subject to an exposure standard.
- (e) No.
- (f) N/A.
- (g) Refer to answer for previous question (d).