

WESTERN MINING CORPORATION, SULFUROUS EMISSIONS

684. Hon JIM SCOTT to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Did Western Mining Corporation report to the then Department of Environmental Protection any visible sulfurous emissions in any of the years 1995, 1996 or 1997 from its Kalgoorlie nickel smelter acid plant that resulted in non-compliance with its licence requirements?
- (2) If yes, please detail the nature of any such non-compliance and the dates on which they occurred.
- (3) Can the minister confirm that a visible sulfur trioxide emission from WMC Kalgoorlie nickel smelter in July 1996 was reported to the then Department of Environmental Protection?
- (4) If yes, will the minister provide details of the date, cause, duration and characteristics of the emission?
- (5) Did the DEP receive any reports or information from WMC that either employees or subcontractors of the WMC Kalgoorlie nickel smelter acid plant were affected by the sulfur trioxide in July 1996?
- (6) If yes, please name the reports and indicate where they are publicly available?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(6) The honourable member has asked a series of questions relevant to the Kalgoorlie nickel smelter and the associated acid plant in 1995, 1996 and 1997. These events occurred between seven and nine years ago and, since then, several of the relevant officers have left the Department of Environment, previously the Department of Environmental Protection. The Department of Environment is undertaking a review of a number of files that cover these events. It is intended to provide the honourable member with a response within one month.