

REACTIVE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS, SOURCES AND REDUCTION OF EMISSIONS

2231. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

The 'Implementing the Perth Air Quality Management Plan progress report to June 2003' noted that Initiative 3 Program 3, identify and assist the major emitters of ROCs to reduce industrial contributions and encourage continuous improvement in ROC reduction measures already introduced, had not commenced -

- (1) What are the significant sources of ROCs in Western Australia?
- (2) Has Initiative 3 Program 3 now been commenced?
- (3) If yes to (2), when will it be completed?
- (4) Has its delay been caused by lobbying from industries?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

The Minister for the Environment has provided the following response:

Reactive Organic Compounds (ROCs) are pollutants which contribute to the formation of photochemical smog which is an air quality issue during summer in Perth. ROCs are also commonly called volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and include air pollutants such as benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes.

- (1) Significant sources of ROCs in WA are -
  - the WA motor vehicle fleet;
  - aggregated emissions sources (e.g. wood heaters, solvent use, architectural surface coatings and service stations);
  - industry; and
  - biogenic emissions.
- (2) No. Program 3 has not started as it is pending the outcomes of Initiative 3 Program 1. The draft technical report associated with Program 1 has been prepared and circulated for peer review. Initiative 3 Program 3 is scheduled to commence in late 2004.
- (3) N/A
- (4) No. The delay identified in the AQMP Progress Report was primarily due to the need to complete preliminary technical work.