

HIGH RISK CHEMICAL STORAGE FACILITIES, INSPECTIONS

467. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Housing and Works representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

Further to Question on Notice No. 222 of September 18 2001 and the joint inspections of high risk chemical storage facilities by DEWCP, DME and Worksafe WA -

- (1) Has this inspection now been completed?
- (2) If not, why is this important survey being delayed?
- (3) If the inspection has been completed will the Minister detail the facilities, their location and the chemicals stored that the inspection has identified?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- 1) The Minister for the Environment and Heritage has been advised by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) that the inspections have been completed.
- 2) Not applicable.
- 3) 350 premises were considered with 46 given priority for inspection, all of which have now been completed. Three sites were considered to be 'high risk', namely a chemical laboratory in Welshpool, a food store in Osborne Park, and a chemical formulator in O'Connor. These premises store and use a range of dangerous goods including acids and alkalis, flammables, pesticides, and industrial and agricultural chemicals.

The Minister has been advised by the DEP that the report is currently being finalised and will be provided to the Honourable Member when it is available. It is anticipated that the report will be available in approximately 2 months.