

BUSES, HYDROGEN POWERED

**140. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the Minister for Transport:**

- (1) Can the minister or his department confirm that the hydrogen bus that Mercedes-Benz bought to Perth earlier this year was in fact a fuel-cell bus, not a bus powered only by a tank of hydrogen?
- (2) If the bus was not a fuel-cell bus, did the minister and his department mislead this House and the public?
- (3) Does the minister know the current location of the bus?

**Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:**

- (1) Yes. The bus was powered by a Ballard fuel cell. Fuel cells are powered by hydrogen. Continuous electricity is generated by a chemical reaction when hydrogen is passed through plates and is mixed with oxygen.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The fuel-cell bus is currently located in Narben, near Stuttgart in Germany.