

NATURAL GAS QUANTITIES

**642. Hon JIM SCOTT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for State Development:**

- (1) Can the minister inform the House what quantities of natural gas will be required for the operation of the following facilities -
  - (a) the compact steel facility;
  - (b) the expansion of production at the Worsley Alumina facility;
  - (c) the expansion of production at Alcoa Wagerup;
  - (d) the expansion of production at Alcoa Pinjarra; and
  - (e) the desalination plant at Kwinana?
- (2) If natural gas is not used, what fuel source will be used?
- (3) If natural gas is used, from where will it be sourced?

**Hon KEN TRAVERS replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question. I am advised -

- (1)
  - (a) The compact steel project has ceased to exist. If the member has mistaken the HIs melt Corporation Pty Ltd plant currently under construction for compact steel, the answer would be that the plant will consume coal as the fuel-reductant.
  - (b)-(d) It is estimated that an additional 77 to 82 terajoules a day of natural gas will be required for the proposed expansions of the alumina industry in Western Australia's Peel and south west regions.
  - (e) the desalination plant will use electricity as its primary source.
- (2) The preferred fuel for the committed and proposed alumina industry expansions is natural gas.
- (3) Natural gas is likely to be sourced from gas fields in the north of Western Australia.