

OIL WASTES, LAND FARMING

16. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the Minister for Housing representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage:
- (1) Does the practice of “land farming” waste oil continue to be carried out in Western Australia?
  - (2) What guidelines exist to cover this practice?
  - (3) At what locations is the practice of oil “land farming” carried out and for each location how much waste oil has been dumped?
  - (4) What monitoring takes place at these sites?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) Land farming is not widely used for the treatment of oil waste in WA. Most oily waste is now treated or recycled.
- (2) The EPA released a guideline entitled “Oil farming for oily wastes - A guide for users” in June 1990 (technical series number 37). The DEP released a discussion paper in April 1997 entitled “Western Australian Waste Oil Strategy” which contains a section on land farming.
- (3) The DEP is aware of two locations where waste oil is land farmed; 7 Mile Railway (near Dampier), and at the Paraburdoo mine site. Both of these facilities are operated by Hamersley Iron. For the 1999 annual reporting period, Hamersley Iron reported that they apply 11 kL/month of oil to the facility at the Paraburdoo mine site and 0.04 kL/month of oil to the facility at 7 Mile Railway.
- (4) Both 7 Mile Railway and the Paraburdoo mine site have conditions on their DEP licence relating to management of the land farming facilities and monitoring.