

GRAHAM FARMER FREEWAY TUNNEL, AIR QUALITY TESTS

276. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Housing and Works representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage
- (1) Has the DEP conducted air quality tests for air pollutants around the portals of the Graham Farmer Freeway tunnel?
 - (2) If yes, what were the levels for the air pollutants monitored and on what dates did the monitoring take place?
 - (3) Has the DEP conducted air quality tests for air pollutants around the exhaust stacks of the Graham Farmer Freeway tunnel?
 - (4) If yes, what were the levels for the air pollutants monitored and on what dates did the monitoring take place?
 - (5) Will the Minister please table any air monitoring results or studies around the Graham Farmer Freeway tunnel portals or exhaust stacks?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) No. Monitoring of air quality near the Graham Farmer Freeway tunnel has been carried out by consultants for the tunnel operators, Boulderstone Clough Joint Venture (BCJV), but not in the immediate vicinity of the tunnel portals.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) BCJV's consultants have measured air pollutants close to the eastern exhaust stack.
- (4) BCJV provided reports on the air quality monitoring to DEP as part of its contractual arrangements with Main Roads WA. Those reports indicate that for a two month period immediately prior to tunnel opening (March and April 2000) and for the periods May to June 2000 and September 2000 to March 2001, the concentrations of oxides of nitrogen, carbon monoxide, ozone and fine particles were well below the National Environmental Protection Measure standards, except for one day on which high particle levels were caused by a regional dust storm.
- (5) The reports were provided under contract to the Department of Main Roads this question will need to be referred to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure.