

TIWEST MINERAL SANDS AND SYNTHETIC RUTILE PLANTS, MUCHEA

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

The Tiwest dry minerals sands plant and the synthetic Rutile plant at Muchea have recently been sampled and tested for the emission of Dioxins into the atmosphere -

- (1) Will the Minister please table the report of the findings?
- (2) What other atmospheric emissions have been tested for?
- (3) Will the Minister table these results?
- (4) If not, why not?
- (5) Has the DEP ever received records and/or reports from Tiwest's synthetic Rutile plant which detail the events of when the emergency stacks are in use as described under their license conditions?
- (6) Will the Minister table these reports dating from 1991 to 2001?
- (7) In 1995, the then Minister for the Environment, Hon Peter Foss, secured the Governor's assent to allow Tiwest to exceed the then State's maximum noise regulations under the *Neighbourhood Noise Act* until the introduction of the new State Noise Regulations, when compliance with the new regulations would be required -
 - (a) did this override continue after the gazetting of the new regulations;
 - (b) if so, for how long;
 - (c) did Tiwest succeed in complying with the new regulations;
 - (d) if so, when; and
 - (e) what is the current level of noise generated at this site?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- 1) The Minister for the Environment and Heritage has been advised by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) that it has received a copy of the report and is currently evaluating it.
- 2) The Environmental Protection Act 1986 licence requires Tiwest to monitor sulphur dioxide, total suspended particulates and hydrogen sulphide quarterly. Results of this monitoring have been submitted to the DEP.
- 3) Yes, I now table the results (Attachment 1) on behalf of the Minister for the Environment and Heritage. [See tabled paper No 1358.]
- 4) Not applicable.
- 5) Yes, the DEP has received technical reports.
- 6) Yes, I now table the reports (Attachment 2) on behalf of the Minister for Environment and Heritage. [See tabled paper No 1358.]
- 7) The Minister for the Environment and Heritage has been advised by the DEP that it can not provide an answer at this time, as considerable research is required to provide the required information.