

EMISSIONS INCREASE — COLLIE REGION

2411. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to recent reports from the National Pollutant Inventory that there has been a significant increase in lead and fine particle emissions in the Collie region and ask:

- (a) when did the Western Australian Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) become aware of the increase in emissions;
- (b) how was the increase communicated to local stakeholders;
- (c) what monitoring does the DEP undertake in the Collie region; and
- (d) due to these high readings, what further investigations are taking place and is there a time frame for these investigations?

Mr A.P. Jacob replied:

- (a) The Department of Environment Regulation (DER) was advised of a significant increase in the total reported emissions of fine particulates and lead by Bluewaters Power Station to the National Pollutant Inventory (NPI) following the lodgement of the data in late 2013.
- (b) Emissions for 2012-13 were published on the NPI website at www.npi.gov.au on 23 May 2014. DER representatives have also provided advice to the Shire of Collie and on 29 July 2014 made a presentation to the full Council.
- (c) DER operates a particle monitor in Wittenoom Street, Collie, and the data is published in the Department's 2013 air monitoring report, available on DER's website at www.der.wa.gov.au.
- (d) DER has requested that Bluewaters Power Station recalculate and resubmit NPI emissions for reporting years 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12. Any corrections to the facility's reports will be published on the NPI website in August 2014.