

COCKBURN CEMENT LTD PLANT, MUNSTER, LICENCE CONDITIONS

391. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage:

- (1) Have the licence conditions for the Cockburn Cement Ltd plant in Munster been changed to allow it to burn waste tyres, waste oil or other waste material?
- (2) If yes, will the minister please provide me with a copy of the new licence conditions?
- (3) If no to (1), is the minister currently considering such a change in licence conditions?
- (4) Is the minister aware of widespread public concern about the emissions from the Cockburn Cement plant in Munster?
- (5) If yes to (4), what action is the Government taking to address this problem?
- (6) Will the minister table the results of the most recent dioxin and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon tests from the Cockburn Cement plant?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) Cockburn Cement's licence has allowed it to burn waste oil since December 1990. That licence has not been changed to allow it to burn waste tyres or other waste material.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Licence conditions are set by the Department of Environmental Protection, which advises that there has been no request by the company to amend its licence conditions.
- (4) The minister is aware that the dust fallout from Cockburn Cement has caused concern for nearby residents.
- (5) The DEP is currently reviewing Cockburn Cement's licence conditions and, if necessary, enforcement action.
- (6) The DEP advises that it is not aware of any dioxin tests having been performed on stack emissions from Cockburn Cement and is aware of only one-off PAH sampling associated with a trial incineration exercise.