

ALCOA WAGERUP REFINERY, FUTURE TRIPARTITE GROUP

1465. Hon JIM SCOTT to the minister representing the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Have Yarloop community representatives refused to participate in the tripartite process until the environment improvement plan - EIP - working group has finalised the model for Western Australia and contentious issues relating to plant emissions, further investigation and monitoring have been settled?
- (2) Has the Department of Environmental Protection and/or Alcoa sent out 1 500 invitations for people to apply for representation on the fast track committee, and is this an attempt to replace current community members who are on the committee?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Department of Environmental Protection has not received a formal position statement from the Yarloop and Districts Concerned Residents Committee that it refuses to participate in the tripartite process. The latest advice from the committee was that it had concerns over the establishment of a tripartite process, including the issues raised by the honourable member, but it did not dismiss itself from future involvement in the tripartite process.
- (2) The DEP has sent out 1 269 letters and nomination forms explaining the tripartite process and seeking community nominations from a broad range of interested parties to participate in a future tripartite group. The distribution included representatives from the Yarloop and Districts Concerned Residents Committee. The department believes that the tripartite proposal is the appropriate forum to resolve the issue and welcomes community involvement. There is no existing tripartite group for management of environmental issues.