

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN FOR CHEMICAL FIRES

1228. Hon JIM SCOTT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) Does the Department of Health have a full emergency response plan for a large-scale chemical fire?
- (2) If yes, does this plan address the following -
 - (a) the safety of the surrounding community and emergency workers;
 - (b) the evacuation of the surrounding community;
 - (c) a post emergency response;
 - (d) ongoing medical support for affected persons;
 - (e) ongoing health monitoring for the surrounding community; and
 - (f) consideration of the cumulative and synergistic effects of multiple chemicals and their combustion?
- (3) If no to (1), why not?
- (4) Will the minister please table any report?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Department of Health responds as one of five core agencies nominated under and covered by the West Australian hazardous materials emergency management plan entitled "Westplan-Hazmat". The Department of Health also has standard operational procedures to cover emergency management of hazardous materials.
- (2) The Westplan-Hazmat standard operational procedures and senior officers group established under the standard operational procedures address the issues outlined in the question.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes.

[See paper No 1411.]