

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question Without Notice

Tuesday, 10 May 2016

C409. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Planning representing the Minister for Environment

I refer to the operations of Yara Pilbara Nitrates Pty Ltd (Works Approval Number: W4701/2010/1) and Yara Pilbara Fertilisers Pty Ltd (Licence: L7997/2002/11) on the Burrup Peninsular and ask:

- (1) Have there been a number of spills or releases or venting of chemicals from the either of the Yarra facilities on the Burrup in the last 2 Months?
- (2) If yes to (1) on what date and time and what was the nature of the chemical component of the spill, vent or release?
- (3) If yes to (1) what quantity was released in volume and parts per million for each spill, vent or release?
- (4) If yes to (1) were nearby factories and beach goers warned and if not why not?
- (5) Is the MissionMode Crisis Management system as deployed by BFPL still in operation and if not why not?
- (6) Was the department advised of each incident and if so at what time and date?

Answer

I thank the Hon Member for some notice of this question.

The Minister for Environment has provided the following response.

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(3) The answer is provided in tabular form and I seek leave to have the information incorporated into Hansard.
- (4) No. No off-site impacts were detected by monitoring carried out by the operator.
- (5) Yes.
- (6) See (2)-(3).

AG

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE – TABLED PAPER

Table – Notification of spills or releases or venting of chemicals from the either of the Yarra facilities on the Burrup in the last two months

Premises	Date	Time	Incident	DER notified (notification of non-standard venting or flaring required within 24 hours)*
L7997/2002/11	25/03/2016	17:45 to 19:45	Pressure relief valve opened - 14 tonnes of ammonia to atmosphere.	Email notification 29/03/2016 11:00 Section 72 notification report 04/04/2016 07:01
L7997/2002/11	26/04/2016	10:40	Plant trip – process gas to atmosphere (no ammonia).	Email notification 27/04/2016 09:58 Follow up report due 10/05/2016
W4701/2010/1	18/04/2016	22:25 to 22:45	Planned venting – 14 kilograms of ammonia to atmosphere.	Pre-notification 18/04/2016 14:37
W4701/2010/1	27/04/2016	23:00 to 00:00	Valve leak – nitric acid (oxides of nitrogen vapours) to atmosphere (triggered closest monitor alarm level set at 100ppm).	Email notification 28/04/2016 11:14
W4701/2010/1	30/04/2016	00:00 to 04:30	Start-up of nitric acid plant – 337 kilograms of oxides of nitrogen to atmosphere (600ppm).	Section 72 notification report 04/05/2016 06:55

*Under section 72 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, companies must report discharges of waste likely to cause pollution or environmental harm, as soon as practicable.