

**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?

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**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**

<b>Premises</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Incident</b>	<b>DER notified (notification of non-standard venting or flaring required within 24 hours)*</b>
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.