

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question Without Notice

Wednesday, 29 June 2016

C699. Hon Robin Chappie to the Minister for Planning representing the Minister for Environment

I refer to the operations of Yara Pilbara Fertilisers Pty Ltd (YPF) (Licence: L7997/2002/11) on the Burrup Peninsula and the 14 tonnes of ammonia leaked into atmosphere and the MOV incident on 16th January and ask:

- (1) Given that the first incident occurred on 25/03/2016 why was the department not notified until 29/03/2016 some four days later?
- (2) Given that the second incident occurred on 16/01/2016 why was the department not notified until 18/01/2016 some two days later?
- (3) Did the failure to report the incidents breach section 72 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?
- (5) If yes to (3), what action is the department taking against Yara Pilbara Fertilisers Pty Ltd for these continued breaches?

Answer

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

The Minister for Environment has provided the following response.

- (1) The 25 March 2016 incident is the subject of an investigation by the Department of Environment Regulation.
- (2) Given the 16 January 2016 incident was a release of atmospheric gases, it is not considered reportable under section 72 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.
- (3)-(5) See above.

