

KILN STACKS - SCRUBBER WASTE

1279. Hon GIZ WATSON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for the Environment:

Further to question without notice 1193, I ask -

- (1) Does the minister consider that waste removed from a brick manufacturing process via a scrubber is suitable for use in the manufacture of compost for domestic consumers?
- (2) Why are brickworks required to have scrubbers to remove these substances from the atmosphere?
- (3) Does the minister consider that the management and disposal of industrial scrubber waste is safely and effectively regulated?

Hon SALLY TALBOT replied:

I thank Hon Giz Watson for some notice of this question. The Minister for the Environment has provided a response in the following terms -

- (1) The Australian Standard, “AS 4454-2003: Composts, soil conditioners and mulches”, sets the standards for the physical and chemical requirements for composts, mulches and soil conditioners. It is the responsibility of any operator reusing this material to do so in accordance with environmental regulations.
- (2) The Department of Environment and Conservation’s brickworks policy specifies that brickworks are required to reduce emissions of contaminants such as chloride, fluoride and sulphur oxides to acceptable levels. Scrubbers are currently the best available technology to remove such contaminants to the levels specified in the policy.
- (3) Yes. It is the responsibility of the brickworks to dispose of wastes in accordance with environmental regulations. For example, waste disposed to landfill must meet relevant landfill acceptance criteria. In addition, it is the responsibility of any operator reusing this material to do so in accordance with environmental regulations.