

TRANSPORT BODIES — "PEAK OIL" RESEARCH

3517. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Transport

- (1) Has the Department of Transport, Main Roads WA, or the Public Transport Authority, conducted any recent research or analysis relating to 'peak oil'?
- (2) If yes to (1), please list and table these reports?
- (3) If no to (2), why not?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

The Department of Transport advises:

- (1) No
- (2) Not applicable
- (3) 'Peak Oil' is understood to refer to the point in time when the maximum rate of global petroleum extraction is reached, after which the rate of production enters terminal decline. Research and analysis relating to peak oil therefore belong more in the domain of international energy and resources experts rather than transport agencies, and indeed respected bodies such as the International Energy Agency have undertaken significant work in this area. The Department of Transport, Main Roads Western Australia and the Public Transport Authority monitor this work.

There are also other reliable sources of information from work undertaken by government agencies better suited to perform the research such as the CSIRO.