

COCKBURN CEMENT AIRSHED — EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES

522. Hon LYNN MacLAREN to the minister representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) Have any epidemiological studies been completed for the Cockburn Cement airshed?
- (2) If yes to (1), will the minister please table the studies?
- (3) If no to (2), why not?
- (4) Are any of these symptoms associated with chromium poisoning?
- (5) Does the government assume responsibility for human health monitoring and response in areas of heavy industry?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for her question and notice of it.

- (1) No.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) The Department of Health would need specific information on the symptoms and who is reported to have been affected before answering this question.
- (5) The Department of Environment and Conservation undertakes monitoring of industry compliance of licensing conditions. Most Australian environmental standards, which form the basis of licensing conditions, are set to be protective of human health.