

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2013-14, 5/6 & 7 June 2013

Question: E13-248

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Opal Fuel

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Siewert

Question:

There has been a recent outbreak of sniffing in a community north of Alice Springs, not far off the Stuart Highway this community stocks Opal fuel in its own store but is surrounded by Non-Opal outlets, a number of which are considered to be refusing to stock Opal fuel. Has the clock started ticking on these retail outlets? At which point will the powers of the LAF bill be used to force them to cease selling standard unleaded and then hopefully stock Opal.

Answer:

In recent months, two sites on the Stuart Highway have agreed to voluntarily supply low aromatic fuel. Other sites in larger nearby regions are also being consulted about supplying low aromatic fuel.

Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice E13-247 for the processes that must be followed under the *Low Aromatic Fuel Act 2013* prior to the Minister taking action to designate a low aromatic fuel area or a fuel control area.