

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome: ANSTO
Output Group: ANSTO

DEST Question No. E255_06

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Have any further incidents [in relation to emissions from radioisotope production] been reported to ARPANSA since 31 December 2004? Please provide details. Is the Minister aware of these incidents? Has he directed you to take any action?

Answer:

Reported incidents in relation to emissions from radioisotope production

ANSTO has provided the following response:

In May 2005 the annual notification level for Xe133 discharges from Bld54 was exceeded and ARPANSA notified. This coincided with the use of some of the original cans with low thermal conductivity, and as a result all remaining cans that were packed by the original method have now been repacked by the improved method.

As indicated in the response to question E254_06, such incidents do not involve any breach of licence conditions or any hazard to the public. As such, there was no reason to notify the Minister.