

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY P.V.F. LE CLAIRE OF ST. HELIER**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY, 10th OCTOBER 2006

Question

In relation to the La Collette composting site, would the Minister give details regarding the use at present of any odour controls and, in particular, whether any applications and chemicals are used? If so, what are the guidelines for the use of these chemicals and has the Department sought advice on any known health risks associated with these applications?

Answer

When it is possible to do so, compost is processed and turned when the wind is blowing off shore. This is done to reduce the effect of compost odours on the neighbours of the La Collette site. Composting is a natural biological process and it is not always possible to wait for the wind to be in an appropriate direction before the compost is turned or processed. When necessary, an odour countervailant is aerosolised through nozzles which are placed around the perimeter of the processing and reception areas.

The countervailant used is called DI-OX 2000 and is applied in line with the manufacturers' recommendations. The health risks to individuals coming into direct contact with the product have been assessed, as required by the Health & Safety at Work (Jersey) Law, with particular reference to the guidance contained in the UK HSE Approved Code of Practice, the "Control of Substances Hazardous to Health ". This assessment is made by the Department's independent occupational hygienists and takes into account the product data published in the manufacturers "Material Safety Data Sheet" as well as the likely levels and routes of exposure. The assessment indicates that the product is safe for use in this application.