

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1480

asked on Thursday, 09 October 2008

---

**MR DICKSON** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR MINES AND ENERGY (MR WILSON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the proposed energy easement from Palmwoods to Pacific Paradise that passes close to the Sunshine Coast Grammar School, residences and Kunda Park sporting complex and also through the middle of Kunda Park Pony Club recreational area—

What would be the maximum electromagnetic exposure (in milliGauss) for each of those areas?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question. I am advised by ENERGEX that:

The recognised authority in Australia on electric and magnetic fields is the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA). ARPANSA's role is to protect the health and safety of people and the environment from the harmful effects of radiation, and includes management of the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Interim Guidelines on limits of exposure.

The NHMRC Guidelines recommend exposure limits for the public for magnetic fields in the range of 1,000 milliGauss continuous or 10,000 milliGauss for up to 2 hours per day.

ENERGEX designs and locates all of its powerlines to ensure they comply with these exposure guidelines. In fact, neither of these projects is expected to cause magnetic fields greater than 10 per cent of the NHMRC Guideline limits.

I am advised that the magnetic fields caused by these projects – as experienced by local residents – are expected to be comparative with the magnetic field caused by a stove, electric blanket or personal computer in the home.