

MOTOR VEHICLE AIR POLLUTION

(Statement by Ministers)



State and Commonwealth Transport Ministers meeting in Port Moresby as the Australian Transport Advisory Council today (July 10) discussed the establishment of standards to control motor vehicle exhaust pollution in Australia.

The Council directed its Standing Committee of Advisers to discuss with the automotive and petroleum industries the introduction of U.S. standards on exhaust emissions. The Committee hopes to arrange a meeting with industry early in September.

It will report back as a matter of urgency to ATAC at its next meeting in about six months.

The report will cover:

- . Recommended uniform exhaust control standards;
- . Approved devices to be fitted to motor vehicles to reduce exhaust emissions;
- . Recommended date of application of the standards.

Ministers studied a comprehensive dossier covering air pollution from all modes of transport prepared by South Australian officials at the request of Council.

The Queensland Minister, Mr W. Knox, suggested maximum permissible levels for chemical emissions from motor vehicle exhausts which his Government is considering implementing.

Ministers were anxious to obtain the best achievable emission control standards so as to effectively combat the public health problem of air pollution.

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It is estimated that the various transport modes - mainly the motor vehicle - can under certain circumstances and in some Australian cities contribute about 64 per cent of atmospheric pollution in Australia.

The Standing Committee of Advisers would also discuss with the petroleum industry developments in reducing the contaminants in motor fuels.

Following a previous decision of ATAC, all States have taken action to require manufacturers to fit devices to new motor vehicles designed to prevent the discharge of crankcase gases into the atmosphere.

PORT MORESBY, T.P.N.G.
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

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