

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 162

Topic: Home Ownership on Indigenous Lands (HOIL)

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Scullion asked:

Did the Government look at any of the contracts before they were signed by program participants?

Answer:

Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) advised all clients that they should not sign any documents before obtaining legal advice. IBA provides funding assistance for independent legal advice.

Some clients signed their building contracts before they were sighted by IBA. IBA reviewed building contracts (a number of which had been executed prior to loan approval) before funds were provided to the builder. The contracts are standard Housing Industry Association building contracts, and the builders engaged to undertake the work are licensed.