

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000095

Senator Lines asked on 11 February 2016 on proof Hansard page 118

Question

Notification of events related to the MV Portland

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Ms Parker: Yes. No—we do not have the name. We could take that on notice.

Senator LINES: No—you are telling me that Alcoa informed you?

Ms Parker: Yes, that is right.

Senator LINES: How did they inform you and at what time?

Ms Parker: One of our officers has regular contact with employers, unions and others during these situations to keep updated, so I understand it was via phone. By telephone.

Senator LINES: They called you? Did the officer who took the call make a note of the details?

Ms Parker: The officer informed me.

Senator LINES: Was that in a written form?

Ms Parker: By phone.

Senator LINES: So—

Ms Parker: No, I did not make a note.

Senator LINES: Okay. So Alcoa phoned and an officer took that call—

Ms Parker: Apologies—the officer is not here.

Senator LINES: That is okay.

Ms Parker: The employer is ASP Ship Management. The ship owner is Alcoa.

Senator LINES: But who notified you? Alcoa or ASP?

Ms Durbin: My understanding is that it would have been ASP. That was the company that we had most of the day-to-day dealings with as the employer of the crew.

Ms Leon: But the actual officer who took the call is not here, so we will correct that on notice.

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Senator LINES: There are two things. Initially Ms Parker said Alcoa called. So was there any contact at all from Alcoa?

Dr Morehead: We will have to take that on notice. He summarised in his head what he would report back to us and then he rang the deputy secretary to explain that to her.

Answer

The Department of Employment had no contact with Alcoa in relation to the departure of the *MV Portland* on 13 January 2016. The information outlined above was provided by ASP Ship Management Pty Ltd.