

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000147

Senator Lines asked on 02 June 2015 on proof Hansard page 111

Question

Code Assessments undertaken for contractors from Western Australia

Senator LINES: What consultation is supposed to happen at the workplace?

Ms Parker: The same as it would at any time. So when they come up to negotiate new agreements—not while they are currently on foot—their agreements meet their nominal expiry date or they decide to bargain for new agreements, one of the factors in negotiating the new agreement clearly is, if you want to have Commonwealth funded work, they have to comply with the code.

Senator LINES: If the legislation gets through.

Ms Parker: Yes.

Senator LINES: So you cannot tell me? There is no way of telling?

Ms Parker: No, only in a voluntary—I will double check.

Senator LINES: I am interested particularly in Western Australia.

Ms Parker: We have done 334 assessments, but it has been only, 'We will give you an indication as to whether it would comply or not.'

Senator LINES: How many of those are Western Australia?

Ms Parker: I will take that on notice. We may be able to tell you that.

Answer

Since the advance release of the Building and Construction Industry (Fair and Lawful Building Sites) Code 2014 was issued on 17 April 2014, of the 362 applications received for an assessment of whether a draft enterprise agreement complies with the Code, 38 applications have been received from Western Australian contractors as at 2 June 2015.