

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Agency - Fair Work Commission

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000357

Senator Lines provided in writing.

Question

FWC - Data collected on Greenfields agreements

What changes to your data collection will you make as a result of the passage of the Greenfields Agreements changes made by the Fair Work Amendment Bill 2014?
Will you collect data on the terms in agreements made between the parties, as distinct from agreements registered after the notified negotiation period?
Will you collect data on the time taken to reach agreement in respect of both types of agreement?

Answer

What changes to your data collection will you make as a result of the passage of the Greenfields Agreements changes made by the Fair Work Amendment Bill 2014?

In the event that the amendments proposed by the Senate to the *Fair Work Amendment Bill 2014* are passed by the House of Representatives, the Fair Work Commission (Commission) will vary the relevant form(s) to reflect the amended jurisdictional requirements for the approval of a Greenfields agreement.

Will you collect data on the terms in agreements made between the parties, as distinct from agreements registered after the notified negotiation period?

The Commission analyses each proposed enterprise agreement to determine whether it satisfies the jurisdictional and legislative requirements for approval, including whether the proposed agreement satisfies the better off overall test.

The Commission publishes, on its website, all enterprise agreements it approves that are not subject to confidentiality orders.

The Department of Employment maintains the Workplace Agreements Database, which contains detailed information on enterprise agreements approved by the Commission.

Will you collect data on the time taken to reach agreement in respect of both types of agreement?

The Commission will maintain the data required to enable it to properly consider if an application to make a Greenfields agreement under the new s.182(4) satisfies the proposed 6 month negotiation period.