

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 25 May 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(BE15/029) - Ausfreight - Programme 1.1: Border Enforcement

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 70) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: On 21 February 2014 the transport and logistics industry publication ATN ran a story covering the cancellation of Ausfreight Global Logistics's customs depot licence due to obligation breaches. The story stated:

ACBPS officers discovered a series of legislative and licence breaches during an inspection of the company's premises last month.

ACBPS National Manager Compliance Assurance Anthony Seebach says the firm now faces significant sanctions, including penalties and prosecution.

"This case should serve as a warning to companies that show deliberate or reckless disregard for their obligations under customs legislation," Seebach says.

"Licensed customs depots play a critical role in the secure and safe movement and storage of goods imported into Australia that are yet to be cleared by border agencies. It is essential to the integrity of our border that these roles are taken seriously."

Seebach says the inspection was undertaken as part of the ACBPS's ongoing compliance program aimed at ensuring licences depots are meeting their obligations.

Is that correct?

Senator KIM CARR: I would be interested to know what sanctions, penalties and prosecutions have arisen from the case.

Mr Quaedvlieg: Sure. We will take that on notice.

Senator KIM CARR: Is Ausfreight Global Logistics still trading?

Mr Quaedvlieg: As I understand it, no.

Senator KIM CARR: What do you understand to be its status?

Mr Quaedvlieg: I shall come back to you on that.

Answer:

The story published in the ATN on 21 February 2014 was correct at the time of publication. The information provided to the ATN was based on the available facts at the time.

No sanction, penalties or prosecutions have arisen from the case.