

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 17 October 2016

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE16/089) - Meat Industry Labour Agreement - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

What would a meatworks need to do to request skilled meat workers under the meat industry labour agreement?

Answer:

Any company interested in requesting a labour agreement can access information on the requirements from <https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Work/Empl/Labour-agreements>.

To request a Meat Industry Labour Agreement (MILA), the company will need to comply with the following requirements:

- Companies must demonstrate that there is a genuine labour market need, and that recent and genuine efforts have been made to test the local labour market and recruit domestically;
- The labour agreement programme is underpinned by comprehensive stakeholder consultation which ensures employment and training opportunities for Australians remain the first priority and the recruitment of overseas workers under a labour agreement is demonstrably in the national interest. An employer requesting a labour agreement should therefore identify and consult with relevant stakeholders on the proposed submission prior to requesting a labour agreement;
- The terms and conditions of employment for overseas workers must be no less favourable than the terms and conditions of employment that is or would be provided to an Australian worker performing the same duties at the same location; and
- The company must commit to a training benchmark specific to the MILA for each year of the labour agreement, that is, 1.6 per cent of total gross wages must be paid on structured training for Australians, or no less than 15 per cent of the total number of employees must be apprentices and/or trainees.