

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 17 October 2016

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE16/091) - Meatworks and meat industry labour agreements - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

1. How many Australian meatworks have entered into a meat industry labour agreement?
2. Please list the meatworks with a meat industry labour agreement by state, and Commonwealth Electoral District.
3. How long does an agreement last?
4. When is an agreement reviewed? By whom?
5. How many agreements have been rejected in the past three years?
6. How does DIBP monitor and enforce meat industry labour agreements?

Answer:

1. As at 1 November 2016, there are 31 Meat Industry Labour Agreements in effect.
2. A labour agreement is a contract between DIBP on behalf of the Minister and the Australian Employer, and as such is commercial in confidence. The Department is unable to release details of current Meat Industry Labour Agreements without the consent of each individual company. Meat processing facilities covered by a labour agreement are in all jurisdictions except for Tasmania; Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. Some Meat Industry Labour Agreements are with companies that run more than one meat processing facility. The Department is unable to provide a breakdown by electorate.
3. Meat Industry Labour Agreements are for a period of five years.
4. Each agreement is reviewed during the third year by departmental officers with input from the companies.
5. Over the last three years, two requests have ceased or have been found to be invalid. No requests have been rejected.
6. DIBP works with the Sponsor Monitoring Unit in the Australian Border Force, the Commonwealth Department of Employment and the Fair Work Ombudsman in relation to ensuring that Australian employers meet their obligations as sponsors of overseas workers.