Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2011-2012

Agency - Fair Work Australia

DEEWR Question No. EW1148_12

Senator Abetz asked on 15 February 2012, Hansard page 118

Question

FWA

Senator Jacinta Collins: I know of no better than what Ms O'Neill put to you this morning. Mr Kovacic: And I am in the same situation, Senator. Senator ABETZ: I am not sure that Ms O'Neill told us how many other such inquiries there had been. Senator Jacinta Collins: I think she said that there were these two that she was currently investigating and there had been one under the previous legislation. Senator ABETZ: Under the previous legislation—all right. Senator Jacinta Collins: That is my recollection. Senator ABETZ: This is not supposed to be a memory test. What I want to know is—possibly, if we can then find out—when the minister's office was informed, if at all, at the time, under the old legislation as to the fact that an inquiry or investigation was being undertaken. Ms Paul: Is that a question on notice essentially for Fair Work Australia? Mr Kovacic: It would be really difficult for us to answer that. Ms Paul: It probably is. Senator ABETZ: And I suppose the minister's office as well. Thank you for that guidance, Ms Paul. If somehow the secretariat or somebody could make sure that that finds its way to Fair Work Australia— CHAIR: Questions on notice are open until, I think, next Thursday.

Answer

Fair Work Australia has provided the following response:

Refer to <u>EW0890_10</u>.