

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

**Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0272\_11**

**Senator Abetz asked on 1/06/2010, Hansard page 77.**

**Question**

**TIME WHEN FWO MADE CONTACT WITH TERANG HARDWARE STORE**

Senator ABETZ—Perhaps I can follow up quickly. Can you please give me the time when, on 5 February, the first contact was made by the department with your office? If you do not have that now, please give it to us on notice. Then—chances are that this question goes to you, Mr Ronson—can you tell me what time of day the Ombudsman first made contact with the Terang hardware store? Mr Ronson—We will take those matters on notice.

**Answer**

*The Fair Work Ombudsman has provided the following response.*

*Can you please give me the time when, on 5 February, the first contact was made by the department with your office?*

The Fair Work Ombudsman was first contacted by the Department in relation to Terang Home Timber and Hardware on the morning of 5 February 2010.

*Can you tell me what time of day the Ombudsman first made contact with the Terang hardware store?*

The Fair Work Ombudsman first made contact with Mr Charlie Duynhoven, General Manager of the Terang and District Co-operative, the entity operating Terang Home Timber and Hardware, at 2.14pm on 5 February 2010. This contact followed an article on the first page of that morning's The Australian newspaper entitled "Gillard calls time on young Matthew's job". The article included an interview with the Mr Charlie Duynhoven, the General Manager of the Terang and District Co-operative, the entity which owns Terang Home Timber and Hardware, regarding his views about the new minimum engagement term. The article also indicated that the Co-operative had not historically complied with its obligations under the superseded Award:

*'The sacked youths had also worked only 1.5 hours under the previous award, rather than the two hours it had stipulated. And there were no workplace agreements in place with them to vary that rule.'*