

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Agency - Fair Work Australia

DEEWR Question No. EW0164_13

Senator Abetz asked on 28 May 2012 , Hansard page 35

Question

FWA - Address to Manufacturing Australia

Senator ABETZ: Thank you, Senator Fisher. Can we clear that up? I thought my question was whether Vice President Graeme Watson's address to Manufacturing Australia fell foul of the injunction in paragraph 34 of your statement. Mr Ross: To Manufacturing Australia? I am not sure of the address you are referring to. Senator ABETZ: Yes, it was the address to Manufacturing Australia. Mr Ross: I have not seen the address to Manufacturing Australia. Senator ABETZ: He said, 'The time has come to improve the calibre of the industrial relations debate rather than simply rehashing bygone cliches,' and a few other comments. I am just wondering whether that sort of commentary falls foul of that injunction in paragraph 34. If you are not aware of the speech at all— Mr Ross: I am not aware of the speech, no. Senator ABETZ: Why don't you take it on notice, in fairness.

Answer

Fair Work Australia has provided the following response:

Fair Work Australia is not aware of an address given by Vice President Graeme Watson to Manufacturing Australia and as such Justice Ross is not able to provide any comment.