

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING
6 NOVEMBER 2003**

COMCARE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question Number: W182-04

Question:

Senator Carr asked in *writing*:

What is the result of an investigation into allegations, at least partially confirmed by Dr Kennedy himself at February 2003 Estimates, that Dr Kennedy ordered an air conditioning unit clearly contaminated with glass fibre to be returned immediately to full operation before any decontamination had occurred? Please provide a copy of the investigation report.

Answer:

This investigation is not yet complete. Some NGA employees relevant to the investigation were absent from work for a number of months following the commencement of the investigation and hence unavailable for interview. A further key witness was not available for interview by the investigator until 17 October 2003. This stalled the progress of gathering information essential to the finalisation of a report of investigation. A draft report of investigation that addresses this matter was provided to the NGA by the investigator on 3 November 2003 for comment on any errors of fact or omissions. Following consideration of any comments made by the NGA, the report will be finalised by the investigator. A copy of the report will be made available to the Committee when completed.