

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

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

Outcome 4 – Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0683_13

Senator Abetz asked on 17 October 2012 , Hansard page 120

Question

Prior notice to QLD state government of announcement

Senator ABETZ: During the dispute he seems to have the time to go to Queensland to make an announcement, without consultation with the Queensland state government, about the transfer of business provisions as they might apply to redundant state public servants. Can it be confirmed to me that no prior notice was given to the Queensland state government of that announcement? Mr Kovacic: The minister wrote to all state and territory ministers of industrial relations on 21 September. Senator ABETZ: And when did he publicly announce? Mr Kovacic: My advice is that he announced it on 21 September as well. Senator ABETZ: Right, so it stands to reason that given they were written to they would not have received those letters at the time of the announcement. Mr Kovacic: I am happy to take that on notice but I cannot answer that.

Answer

The Department's records indicate that a copy of the Minister's letter to the Queensland Government was sent via email at 11:56 am on 21 September 2012.