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16 October 2009

By: Senator Abetz

Date: 21 October 2010

Mr John McCormick
Director of Aviation Safety
Civil Aviation Safety Authority
Canberra
ACT 2600

Dear Mr McCormick

When I accepted the position of Industry Complaints Commissioner with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority it was on the basis that the role was to support the then CEO Mr Byron by managing complaints, CASA stakeholders and the Authority's relationship with Industry.

In view of proposed changes to the duties, relationship and role of the ICC, together with the advice conveyed to me by the EM Office of DAS, that it is your direction that the ICC should now answer to the newly established Ethics and Conduct Committee (ECC), I have had cause to review the terms and conditions of my employment with the Authority.

The re-organisation of the Authority since April 2009 together with the proposed but as yet undisclosed changes to the role of the ICC, represent a material and significant change to my employment contract both implied and written I currently have with the Authority. I have formed the view that I can no longer effectively do the work I was contracted to do and as a result I am now not able to continue in the role of the Industry Complaints Commissioner. I am therefore resigning from the Authority and the position of Industry Complaints Commissioner and will be retiring from full time work to read law preparatory to admission to the Bar in NSW.

Taking into account the terms of my current contract and to allow you and the Authority to manage an orderly transition of the work I have been doing my last day of employment will be 31 December 2009.

Yours sincerely

Michael Hart