

Green Loans Program

I am a 50 year old woman on a disability allowance caring for my aged mother who took the opportunity in December 2009 to study with environmentaustralia to become a household sustainability assessor (\$1,600). I applied for my police check (\$50) and organised professional indemnity and public liability insurance (\$1,200) and finally the application to ABSA (\$660).

In February I received my ABSA HO and in March my ID card from ABSA which has an expiry date 9 February 2011. I sent DEWHA my contract early February but have not had any reply.

Initially, I was very enthusiastic eagerly sacrificed time and a great deal of money to ensure a productive future for myself. I planned to work in the community as an assessor while earning extra dollars. However, my enthusiasm has waned to the point of almost giving up. I need the income now more than at the beginning of the year when I thought I would be out and about working hard.

After many attempts to find out whether DEWHA has processed my Contract I have not received a reply. I am not permitted to work as an assessor without it.

I have always been determined not to waste resources however, my hard-to-come-by dollars are at this stage sitting at the mercy of the Green Loans Program. That is to say, my insurance is paid up to July and this being the month of March, half of my insurance dollars are wasted due to the Contract not being approved. The member fee paid to ABSA has lost 2 months worth of its value (being valid for 12 months). I trust that compensation will be made for moneys lost due to the mismanagement of the Program.

I look forward to the future with optimism as an assessor who will be supported and educated in this Program.

March 2010