

12th April 2010

GREEN LOANS PROGRAM INQUIRY

Trained by an Accredited Training Organisation.

36 Assessments by Christmas and 7 at the end of February.

As my Wife and I are preparing our modest Apartment for Sale to clear our debts brought about by the Green Loans Fiasco, my neighbour dropped in the Gold Coast Paradise magazine with a Green Loans Feature.

This well researched article written by Lucy Ardern refers to the plight of many of the Accredited Assessors and also the ones that missed out on being Accredited. (PDF copy will be made available by the Magazine if needed.)

WE ALL ARE AWARE OF THE VARIOUS ISSUES THAT STILL HAVE NOT BEEN SOLVED ESPECIALLY THE BLATANT DISREGARD FOR ANY CORRESPONDENCE TO RESOLVE INVOICE PAYMENTS. MY JANUARY INVOICE (AND I BELIEVE OTHER ASSESSORS ARE IN THE SAME BOAT) HAS NOT BEEN PAID.

Reading the article further I came across a Statement attributed to a Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency spokesperson who stated

“Assessors were never promised they could undertake seven assessments per day. The contract for Assessors specifically states there was no guarantee of work under the Green Loans program.”

“THE DECISION TO SEEK TO BECOME AN ACCREDITED ASSESSOR HAS BEEN AN INDIVIDUAL COMMERCIAL DECISION”

THIS SEEMS TO BE THE WELL WORN, TEDIOUS AND MONOTONOUS STATEMENT FROM CANBERRA TO COVER THEIR BACKSIDES. THE DELIVERY TONE IS MADE IN AN ARBITRARY WAY WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST HINT OF EMPATHY FOR THE PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM THEIR INCOMPETENCE.

That right, it was my decision to become an Assessor. I researched all the pitfalls that may have occurred. I made sure that my training was provided by an Accredited Training Organisation as listed on DEWHA's Web Site, compiled a business plan based on Peter Garrett's public announcement that only 1000 Assessors would be involved and invested the necessary money to start the Business.

WHAT WAS NOT MADE PUBLIC BY PETER GARRETT AND DEWHA IS THAT FIELDFORCE HAD A DIRECT LINK TO DEWHA'S BOOKING COMPUTER.

This quite possibly would have resulted in most would be Assessors questioning the viability of the Scheme for single operators.

MY QUESTION IS: WHAT CONSIDERATION WAS OFFERED TO DEWHA BY FIELDFORCE AND WHY THIS RELATIONSHIP WAS NOT MADE PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY TO ASPIRING ASSESSORS?

WHAT DATE DID THIS RELATIONSHIP START?

WHY THIS ACTION WAS CONDONED BY DEWHA TO CREATE A SECRETIVE, PREDATORY TRADE ARRANGEMENT WHICH I BELIEVE WOULD BE IN BREACH OF THE TRADE PRACTISES ACT?

THE QUESTION OF PAYING MORE MONEY TO PRICEWATERHOUSE AND COOPERS TO REVIEW ASSESSOR ACCREDITATION. A SIMPLE VIEWING OF ABSA'S WEB SITE FOR ACCREDITED TRAINING HOUSES WOULD QUICKLY SHOW THAT ONLY ONLY AROUND 12 WERE REGISTERED BUT 65 WERE LISTED.

This brings me to questioning the role of actions of ABSA in the Scheme.

ABSA WAS SET UP BY DEWHA TO ADMINISTER THE ACREDITATION OF TRAINING HOUSES AND ASSESSOR ACREDITATION.

WHY DID ABSA ALLOW DIRECTORS TO RUN GREEN LOAN TRAINING COURSES WHEN NOT ACREDITED TO DO SO?

WHERE DID THE MONEY RAISED FROM THESE COURSES GO TO: ABSA OR THE TRAINER?

WAS THERE ARE CONFLICT OF INTEREST OF ABSA DIRECTORS ALSO RUNNING PRIVATE GREEN LOANS ORGANISATIONS?

WHY DID ABSA ALLOW PRIVATE TRAINERS TO TRAIN WHEN NOT ACREDITED?

WHY DID ABSA ACREDIT ASSESSORS FROM NON ACREDITED TRAINING ORGANISATIONS?

DID DEWHA FORCE ABSA TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ASSESSORS FOR: E.G THE COPENHAGEN MEETING?

DID ABSA INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ASSESSORS FOR THEIR OWN GAIN?

WHY IS ABSA NOT EFFECTIVELY LOOKING AFTER THE INTERESTS OF THEIR PAID UP MEMBERS?

ABSA BY ALLOWING THESE PRACTISES, CONTRAVINED THEIR OWN CHARTER.

All in all a complete STUFF UP.

FINANCIAL and EMOTIONAL HARDSHIP for the soldiers on the ground.

The DEECC spokesperson has their position and salary.

Peter Garrett has not suffered financially.

1 month later still no answers from DEECC.