

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000034

Senator Lines provided in writing.

Question

FWO - Seafarers - Rathboyne

In approximately 2012 the ship the Rathboyne had a Burmese crew who complained of non-payment of Part B but were subsequently replaced with a Chinese crew, probably because of the complaint. Did the investigation show any outstanding wages for the Burmese crew and were the subsequent Chinese crew paid the correct rate?

Answer

The Fair Work Ombudsman investigation of the Rathboyne in 2012 identified an underpayment of wages of \$13,513 owing to 20 crew members.

Gearbulk Australasia Pty Ltd (**Gearbulk**) was identified as the employer.

Following its investigation, the Fair Work Ombudsman issued Gearbulk with a compliance notice pursuant to section 716(1) of the *Fair Work Act 2009* in respect of the underpaid wages. Gearbulk complied with the notice by rectifying the underpayment amounts in full.