

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

#### Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000279

Senator McKenzie provided in writing.

#### Question

##### Fair Entitlements Guarantee - Queensland Nickel - political donations

Could the Department be able to recover any of the FEG monies if the political donations were determined to be uncommercial?

If so, who would the money be recovered from?

Could it be recovered from a director or shareholder of one of the related entity companies?

Could it be recovered from the Palmer United Party?

If the Palmer United Party does not have sufficient assets to pay for the recovered money, could it be recovered from the directors of the Palmer United Party?

#### Answer

*Could the Department be able to recover any of the FEG monies if the political donations were determined to be uncommercial?*

Yes. Any recoveries will be distributed to creditors in accordance with section 556 of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth). The Department will be a priority creditor.

*If so, who would the money be recovered from?*

The entity/person who was the recipient of the political donations or, potentially, any related body corporate of Queensland Nickel who received a benefit because the political donations were made.

*Could it be recovered from a director or shareholder of one of the related entity companies?*

Any orders that are made will be directed at entities/persons who received a benefit from the transaction. Therefore, the scope of the orders that could be made will depend on the full terms of any transactions that took place.

*Could it be recovered from the Palmer United Party? If the Palmer United Party does not have sufficient assets to pay for the recovered money, could it be recovered from the directors of the Palmer United Party?*

Palmer United Party is an unincorporated association. Liability for making any repayments to Queensland Nickel will depend on any transactions that occurred and the approvals provided for those transactions.