



Australian Government
Fair Work Building
& Construction

Additional 2016-17

Education and Employment Legislation Committee

Tabled doc #: 1

Tabled by: FWO

Date: 2-Mar-17

1 December 2016

Ms Natalie James
Fair Work Ombudsman
GPO Box 9887
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Natalie

Arrangements for Investigation of Wages and Entitlement Matters: Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) and the Australian Building and Construction Commission (ABCC)

I write regarding the arrangements between FWO and the Office of the Fair Work Building Industry Inspectorate (FWBC) for the handling of complaints and investigations relating to wages and entitlements under the *Fair Work Act 2009* and relevant Commonwealth awards and agreements.

You would be aware of the recent passage of the *Building and Construction Industry (Improving Productivity) Act 2013*, which re-establishes the ABCC, and among other responsibilities, directly confers that the Australian Building and Construction Commissioner must perform his or her functions in relation to wages and entitlements and sham arrangements.

In light of the requirements of the new Act, I am writing to formally rescind the agreement of December 2013 between our agencies regarding the investigation of wages and entitlement matters.

Meanwhile, I am anxious that a meeting be held at an appropriate level with representatives of Legal, Corporate and Operations of our respective agencies, as soon as possible. The following people would be representative of ABCC:

- Bernie O'Keeffe – Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer
- Murray Gregor – Regional Manager Southern
- Shamim Saeedi – General Counsel

My Chief of Staff, Kate Brookes, is available to arrange this meeting with a suitable counterpart in your office.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Hadgkiss
Director

Fair Work Building & Construction