SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING 19 FEBRUARY 2004

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.1: Workplace Relations Policy and Analysis

Output 2.2.8: Interim Building Taskforce

Ouestion Number: W409-04

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

How many cases of alleged wrongdoing on the part of employers has the Taskforce investigated? What is the nature of these cases? Do these cases simultaneously involve investigations of alleged wrongdoing by unions?

Answer:

To 31 December 2003 the Taskforce investigated 25 cases of alleged wrongdoing on the part of employers.

These cases related to possible breaches of the Workplace Relations Act 1996.

Matters investigated included: employee entitlement obligations and taxation, the employment of illegal immigrants, freedom of association issues, the payment of strike pay, inappropriate financial acts, contractual matters, inappropriate tendering practices, occupational health and safety concerns and employment conditions and practices.

Two of these matters, which involve strike pay and loss of work, also involved allegations of wrongdoing by unions.