

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 ADDITIONAL SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
16 FEBRUARY 2006
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**OFFICE OF THE AUSTRALIAN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION
COMMISSIONER**

Outcome: Workplace Relations laws are enforced in building and construction industry workplaces

Question Number: W813-06

Question:

Senator Siewert asked in writing:

- a) Can you clarify on what basis legal counsel might be considered to have a potential conflict of interest and excluded from representing a client if they have appeared before the ABCC to represent a different client?
- b) Is it true that it is perfectly acceptable for legal counsel to do so in a court of law and that the exclusion on the basis of potential conflict of interest is particular to the National Crime Authority Act and not covered in the BCII Act?

Answer:

- This issue is the subject of a Federal Court challenge. It is inappropriate for the ABCC to comment on the matter.