

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission

DEEWR Question No.EW0709_11

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

DIRECTOR OPERATIONS NORTHERN

In relation to the following line of questioning at Senate estimates, can the ABCC provide responses to the questions below. Senator ABETZ—Thank you and welcome, Mr Johns. Has the organisational chart that is displayed on the website altered since late last year? In particular, am I correct to detect a number of changes to the top structure and specifically Director Operations Northern? Mr Johns—Yes, Senator. Senator ABETZ—What has happened to that position? Mr Johns—It has been abolished. Senator ABETZ—So what has happened to the person who used to hold that position? Mr Johns—The officer who was formerly in that SES band 1 position has accepted a demotion to an EL2 position. Senator ABETZ—And has any money been paid to that officer, which is interesting, in compensation for that demotion? Mr Johns—I do not believe so, but I am happy to take the question on notice. Senator ABETZ—If you could, because one assumes there is less remuneration attached to the demoted position. Am I correct in that assumption? Mr Johns—I would need to check. It might have been that he was already at the top of the EL2 band which crossed over in terms of relativities with the bottom of the SES band 1. Senator ABETZ—That is right. Mr Johns—So it might be that there has not been a change. I am happy to take it on notice. Senator ABETZ—If you could. All I want is Director Operations Northern, so the person's name is not unnecessarily put into the Hansard. Mr Johns—Yes, of course. Hansard, Page EEWR80 1. Did the compensation for a reduction in level of an SES 1 officer take account of the effect of a loss of a personal use vehicle, travel allowance and class of travel? 2. What effect did the reduction in level have on salary for superannuation purposes? 3. Was the officer adversely affected in this regard?

Answer

The Office of the Australian Building and Construction has provided the following responses:

1. Yes, in the sense that the employee's base salary was maintained.
2. There was no effect on the reduction to a lower classification on the officer's superannuation salary. The officer's base salary was retained. In addition the SES vehicle allowance previously granted to the officer does not incur superannuation payments, or count for superannuation salary purposes.

3. The officer's superannuation salary was not adversely affected in regards to the reduction of classification.