

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0903_12

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Review of the Fair Work Act

1. How many submissions were received?
2. Were all submissions published on or before 20 February?
 - a. If not, which submissions and
 - b. Why not?
3. Were any submissions received after close of business on 17 February?
 - a. If so, which submissions?
 - b. Were these submissions taken as formal submissions despite being late?
4. Given submissions weren't published on the website by COB 20 February, were any extensions given to the supplementary submission phase to allow for this?
 - a. If not, why not?

Answer

1. 203 Submissions had been received as at 10 am on 6 March 2012.
2. No.
 - a) Submissions from the following parties were published on 21 February 2012:
 - Ai Group
 - Ai Group and Australian Constructors Association
 - Association of Professional Engineers, Scientists and Managers Australia - Collieries' Staff Division
 - Australian and International Pilots Association
 - Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 - Australian Council of Trade Unions
 - Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse
 - Australian Education Union
 - Australian Federation of Employers and Industries
 - Australian Hotels Association
 - Australian Institute of Marine and Power Engineers
 - Australian National Retailers Association
 - Australian Newsagents Federation
 - Bennett, Alistair
 - Brown, Douglas
 - Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA
 - JobWatch Inc
 - Kingsford Legal Centre
 - McCullough Robertson

- Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance
- Minerals Council of Australia
- Motor Trade Association WA
- National Farmers' Federation
- National Tertiary Education Industry Union
- NSW Institute of Senior Educational Administrators
- Peetz, David
- Pittard, Marilyn
- Queensland Tourism Industry Council
- Rail, Tram and Bus Union
- Recruitment and Consulting Services Association
- Rio Tinto
- Textile, Clothing and Footwear Union of Australia
- United Voice
- Victorian Employers Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Western Australian Government
- Woodside Energy Limited
- Work and Family Policy Roundtable

Submissions from the following parties were published on 22 February 2012:

- BHP Billiton
- Chamber of Commerce NT
- Electrical Trades Union
- HR Nicholls Society
- Law Institute of Victoria
- Master Plumbers' Association of Queensland
- NSW Institute of Senior Educational Administrators
- Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
- Printing Industries Association of Australia

Submissions from the following parties were published on 24 February 2012

- Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association
- Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law
- Transport Workers Union
- Council of Textile and Fashion Industries of Australia
- National Tourism Alliance
- Australian Retailers Association
- DND May Services
- Jamieson, Kathryn
- Kertes, Rachael
- LCN Fashion
- O'Grady, Lois
- Pearce, Noel
- Pesenti, Ester
- Redfern Legal Centre
- Stanley, William
- Vincent, Joanna

Submissions from the following parties were published on 27 February 2012

- Council of Textile and Fashion Industries of Australia
- National Tourism Alliance
- Unions NSW

Submissions from the following parties were published on 5 March 2012

- Seager, Emily

- b) In order to ensure compliance with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* the Department publishes documents online in multiple formats which have been optimised for accessibility.

While the majority of Submissions were received on or before 17 February, many Submissions were initially provided only in PDF format. As this format is not optimal for accessibility, the Department liaised with submitters to obtain a copy of their Submission in an accessible format, such as MS Word.

Generally, Submissions were published the next working day from receipt of the submission in the correct format.

In addition, some Submissions were published after 20 February 2012 due to the large number of Submissions received on the final day of the initial submission process.

3. The closing date for Submissions was 17 February 2012. The Panel did not request Submissions to be made before close of business and Submissions continued to be received after close of business. In addition to those received on the closing date, a further 27 Submissions were received after 17 February 2012 and have been accepted by the Panel. Non-confidential Submissions were received from:

- Aesthetics Practitioners Advisory Network Pty Ltd
- Australian Education Union
- Australian Institute of Marine and Power Engineers
- Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association
- Australian Industry Group
- Brown, Douglas
- Chamber of Commerce NT
- Law Institute of Victoria
- Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance
- Minerals Council of Australia
- National Tertiary Education Industry Union
- National Tourism Alliance
- NSW Institute of Senior Educational Administrators
- O'Grady, Lois
- Pearce, Noel
- Pesenti, Ester
- Pittard, Marilyn
- Printing Industries Association of Australia
- Rail, Tram and Bus Union National Office
- Recruitment and Consulting Services Association
- Seager, Emily
- Unions NSW
- Vincent, Joanna
- Western Australian Government
- Work and Family Policy Roundtable

Further, two confidential Submissions were received after 17 February 2012. Both were accepted by the Panel.

4. As at 10 am on 6 March 2012, only one extension to the deadline to lodge a Supplementary Submission was sought. The party was advised that the Panel would not reject a Supplementary submission made after the deadline where there were exceptional circumstances justifying the delay. The party was also urged to provide the Supplementary Submission as soon as possible.

The Submission was received on Sunday, 4 March 2012 and has been accepted by the Panel.