

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

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

**Agency - Safe Work Australia**

**DEEWR Question No. EW1093\_12**

**Senator Abetz asked on 15 February 2012, Hansard page 57**

**Question**

***SWA - no formal response to letter from 9 March 2011***

Senator ABETZ: The assertion here is that 'in response to an email that I sent to Safe Work Australia on 9 March 2011, I received an email reply on 17 March that, amongst other things'—and then that was the response. I cannot quite pick it up. He is complaining that it is now November 2011 and he has had 'no formal response to the above letter'. Mr Hoy: I will take that on notice and I will check.

**Answer**

*Safe Work Australia has provided the following response.*

On 9 March 2011 an e-mail to Safe Work Australia from Mr Lisson on behalf of the Abalone Council Australia was received asking a range of questions about the consultation and development processes for the draft model WHS Regulations on Diving.

On 9 March 2011 Safe Work Australia emailed Mr Lisson advising him that the relevant area would provide a response and encouraging him to make a public submission on the draft model WHS Regulations on Diving and Codes of Practice by 4 April 2011.

On 17 March 2011 a further email was sent to Mr Lisson briefly setting out the consultation and development process for the model WHS Regulations and Codes of Practice. The email again invited Abalone Council Australia to make a submission on the draft model WHS Regulations on Diving during the public comment period.

On 4 April 2011 the Abalone Council Australia and the Tasmanian Abalone Council lodged submissions on the draft model WHS Regulations on Diving (with a covering letter dated 1 April 2011). Mr Lisson was notified by an automatically generated response email that the submissions had been received and informed that all submissions will be reviewed and analysed.

Between 2 May 2011 and 6 May 2011 further telephone communication occurred between Mr Lisson and Safe Work Australia regarding the consultation and development processes for the draft model WHS Regulations on Diving.