

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2013-2014

Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EM0177_14

Senator Cameron asked on 27 February 2014 , Hansard page 97

Question

SPC Ardmona enterprise bargaining agreement

Senator CAMERON: Secretary, I wonder if the department has conducted any analysis of the SPC Ardmona enterprise bargaining agreement? Ms Leon: Senator, we usually do for matters around agreements and disputes that are in the public domain. We usually do some internal work in the department about it, yes. Senator CAMERON: Can you tell me when you first started doing internal work on that agreement? Ms Leon: I am not sure if I can give you that here. I will have a look. If I cannot, I will take that on notice. Senator CAMERON: It would have been Dr Morehead who did the analysis, wouldn't it? Ms Leon: It is possible. I could not give you an exact date, but we think it was in December. Senator CAMERON: Early or late December? Ms Leon: You are testing me now, because I just do not have those documents with me. Senator CAMERON: Can you— Ms Leon: It was in the media in about mid-December, I think, and usually the appearance of some industrial issue in the media would lead to us doing some work to make sure we are aware of what it is about. Senator CAMERON: So this was self-initiated analysis? Ms Leon: We always do that. Senator CAMERON: I suppose the key issue is when that analysis was conducted. You will take that on notice? Ms Leon: I will take that on notice. Senator CAMERON: Can you tell me what officers were involved in the analysis, and can you also— Senator Abetz: No, we do not need to name the officers involved. Ms Leon: I can tell you the area of the department. Senator CAMERON: You can tell me what area of the department, that is fine. I assume it is Dr Morehead, given her previous evidence. Ms Leon: Yes, I think it would be, but I will get back to you on that.

Answer

The department conducted analysis of the “SPC Ardmona Operations Shepparton/Mooroopna (Food Preservers) Enterprise Agreement 2012”, the “SPC Ardmona Operations (Food Preservers) Kyabram Site General Union Collective Enterprise Agreement 2009” and the “SPC Ardmona Operations Metals Electrical, Maintenance and Boiler House Agreement 2010”.

The department commenced this on 19 December 2013 in the Workplace Relations Policy Group.