

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

**2006-2007 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
29<sup>TH</sup> AND 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY 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:** W227-07

**Question:**

Senator Siewert asked in writing:

Can you clarify what arrangements are in place for cost recovery for a worker who is NOT accused of committing an offence under the BCII Act but is required to travel to attend an ABCC hearing? I understand that travel costs are covered, but in the situation where a worker has to travel (say from Albany to Perth) to answer questions, would this person be compensated (given that they have done nothing wrong but they are required to miss a day's work to do this travel)?

**Answer:**

A person who attends an examination pursuant to a notice served under section 52 of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Act 2005 (BCII Act) can be reimbursed for travel expenses.

Persons attending an ABCC examination are not provided other compensation.

The ABCC would consider reasonable requests to minimise costs and inconvenience occasioned for witnesses required to attend examinations.

ABCC examinations are only conducted when a witness has declined to provide information voluntarily.