

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome 5

DEEWR Question No. EW0141_10

Senator Fisher provided in writing.

Question

Award modernisation process

In the Department's consideration of the operating hours of the restaurant and catering industry, what were the peak operating times for restaurant and café businesses?

Answer

The Minister's award modernisation request requires the Australian Industrial Relations Commission (the Commission) to include ordinary hours of work in each modern award. This includes the span in which ordinary hours can be worked.

In its submission to the Commission of 10 October 2008, Restaurant and Catering Australia (R&CA) noted that the typical span of hours in the industry is 6am to midnight. R&CA informed the Commission that it saw restaurant peak times as being of an evening, particularly weekend evenings in non-CBD areas.