

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

**Agency - Fair Work Australia**

**DEEWR Question No. EW0171\_13**

**Senator Abetz asked on 28 May 2012 , Hansard page 43**

*Refers to previous DEEWR Question No: EW0883\_12*

**Question**

**FWA - Approval of enterprise agreements - small business v big business**

Senator ABETZ: Do you have any insight into those enterprise agreements that are not approved, whether we are in general terms dealing with small businesses or big businesses? I know that is a vague term, but is there a flavour that you might be able get us that might be gleaned from the evidence? Ms O'Neill: I doubt that. I will take it on notice, but to do that I think it would require an examination of all of the individual decisions. I do not think we could extract from our case management system that information, but I will take it on notice.

**Answer**

*Fair Work Australia has provided the following response.*

Although parties who apply to Fair Work Australia for approval of enterprise agreements must specify in the application the number of employees employed by the enterprise, this information is not entered into the Case Management System. It is therefore not possible to extract information as to the size of enterprises which seek approval of an enterprise agreement.