

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

**2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
2ND NOVEMBER 2006
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3: Increased workforce participation

Output Group 3.2: Labour market strategies

Output 3.2.1: Labour Market Analysis

Question Number: W838-07

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

457 Visas

At Estimates on 30 October 2006, Senator Carr asked Mr Rizvi (DIMA) “How often are regional certifying bodies consulted before visas are issued? In response Mr Rizvi said that in order to utilise regional concessions for 457 visas, the regional certifying body is required to be consulted and sign off on it being appropriate before the visa application is made.”

As part of the audit process, does DEWR or DIMA look to ensure that employers who claim regional concession have had the application signed off by the regional certifying body?

Answer:

DEWR has no role in the assessment of visa applications.