

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**(41) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry**

Senator Carr (L&C 51) asked:

Confirm whether workers under the 457 visa class are being classified by South West TAFE at AQF II for employment in Australian abattoirs.

*Answer:*

The skill level requirement for the occupation of slaughterperson is an AQF Certificate III or higher qualification. If a visa applicant had an AQF Certificate II in support of their application, the application would not be accepted by the Department, as it would indicate that the applicant did not hold the required skill level.

The Department is not aware of any 457 visas being granted to slaughterpersons holding only an AQF II Certificate issued by the South West TAFE.