

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

**Question No. 107**

**Senator Abetz asked the following question at the hearing on 20 October 2008:**

On 26 May 2008 Senator Abetz asked 'did the Government seek any legal advice in relation to the implications for Customs officers on the Oceanic Viking in having to provide potential evidence relating to the Sea Shepherd activists in boarding Japanese vessels'? The answer provided indicates that Customs did not seek specific legal advice. Was any, legal advice sought? Please provide a more specific answer.

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

No legal advice was requested by Customs in relation to the implications for Customs officers on the Oceanic Viking in having to provide potential evidence in matters relating to the Sea Shepherd activists in boarding Japanese vessels.