

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 16 June 2014 12:07 PM
To: Transport Housing and Local Government Committee
Subject: Submission to Parliamentary enquiry
Importance: High

The Research Director
Transport, Housing and Local Government Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

16th June 2014

Dear Research Officer

Hearings into Building and Construction industry Payments Bill 2014

I am making this submission as a concerned Adjudicator.

This submission is particularly focused on the government's decision to cease to use ANAs.

In abolishing ANAs, the amendment Bill goes much further than either the recommendations of the Wallace Report or the Minister's media release. The Wallace report identifies many valuable statutory functions fulfilled by ANAs. Of those functions, it only recommends that the appointment of adjudicators be transferred to the Adjudication Registrar.

As an adjudicator, I frequently deal with Adjudicate Today, and I know they invest substantial resources to providing advice and assistance to industry participants in ensuring applications comply with the sometimes complex provisions of the Act. The staff of Adjudicate Today are very well trained, professional and helpful.

Apart from the services which ANAs provide to industry, they provide a point of separation between parties and adjudicators.

I consider that to be an essential part of the Adjudication process, and one which could not be adequately replaced by the use of an agent appointed by the adjudicator.

Why does the government want to abolish ANAs? No reason has been given.

I recommend the Bill be amended so that ANAs continue all their statutory functions other than the appointment of adjudicators. To keep costs down, ANAs should compete through the provision of information and quality of service to receive adjudication applications. The only difference will be that ANAs supply the Registrar with their nominations for appointment.

I would be happy to discuss this matter further with you.

Regards

Graham Rattue