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2011 LIV Community Lawyer of the Year Award I 2013 Tim McCoy Award I 2014 HESTA Social Impact Award 2016 National Disability Award - Excellence in Justice and Rights Protection

17 January 2018

By Email: Chambers.Hatcher.VP@fwc.gov.au

Vice President Hatcher
Fair Work Commission
80 William Street
EAST SYNDEY NSW 2011

Dear Vice President Hatcher

Re: AM2014/286 – Supported Employment Services Award 2010 Site Inspection Proposals

We refer to the above and thank the Commission for its indulgence as to our attempt to organise site inspections at several Australian Disability Enterprises (ADE) within Victoria.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to facilitate an organisation of a site inspection. This has been due to factors such as strict time constraints, unavailability of key personnel within the Enterprises and infeasibility of organising inspections due to work being completed off site at third party facilities.

We are concerned the site inspections thus organised neglect to consider any Enterprises that utilise the Supported Wage System (SWS) and therefore do not present a balanced view.

We have however had encouraging discussions with the management of relevant Enterprises regarding the attempt to facilitate such visits, although they have not been successful. Mr Tim Potter of Clean Force (Wise Employment) has indicated that he or his staff would be willing to provide information regarding the use of SWS at Clean Force. Mr Potter has suggested that it would perhaps be more beneficial to examine the utilisation of the SWS via a small focus group or meeting with the Commission as opposed to a site inspection that may not be of much value. Clean Force has used SWS successfully for over fifteen (15) years.

If the Commission was in favour of taking up this offer, AED would be happy to facilitate such a meeting.

We apologise to the Commission and to the other parties for any inconvenience our endeavours have created.

If you have any queries in relation to the above, please email us at noni.lord@aed.org.au or leave a voicemail message on (03) 9639 4333 with some convenient times for us to return your call.

Yours sincerely

Kairsty Wilson

Principal Legal Practitioner

AED Legal Centre