



Australian Government
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF AVIATION SAFETY

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12 November 2012

Senator Bill Heffernan
Chair
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs
and Transport References Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Heffernan

Clarification of statements made at hearing on 22 October 2012

I write regarding certain statements made during the appearance of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) at the inquiry into aviation accident investigation (Pel-Air) on 22 October 2012.

At page 36 of the *Hansard* from Monday 22 October I stated:

Senator XENOPHON: So, there is nothing to stop Mr Wickham working on Pel-Air right now, notwithstanding the fact that he was the chief pilot?

Mr McCormick: Mr Wickham has not worked on Pel-Air other than to do a desktop review on some aspects.

I made this statement in good faith. It has since been brought to my attention that Mr Wickham was not involved in desk top work but instead, on 11 November 2011, he participated as an observer for an assessment of a Pel-Air check pilot in order to gain approval to conduct an Emergency Procedures Check under the Civil Aviation Orders. This was necessary as part of Mr Wickham's development for a Flying Operations Inspector role. No other work was conducted on Pel-Air by Mr Wickham.

I apologise if my comments have been in any way misleading.

Yours sincerely

John F. McCormick
Director of Aviation Safety