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4 December 2013

Senator David Bushby
Chair
Senate Economics Legislation Committee
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Senator

On reviewing the Proof Hansard of testimony that CSIRO provided at the Senate Estimates hearing on Thursday 21 November 2013 I have determined that some of the information I provided was in error and needs to be corrected.

In discussions with Senator Carr regarding the new research vessel RV *Investigator* I was asked by the Senator how many days a year the vessel will operate (page 30 of the Proof Hansard) to which I replied:

Ms Hazel Bennett: The vessel has the capacity for 300 days a year. The \$12.1 million has been estimated on approximately 165 to 185 days—as you can appreciate, it does depend a little bit as to the scientific purpose.

The second sentence regarding \$12.1 million providing approximately 165 to 185 days at sea was incorrect and needs correction. The \$12.1 million will provide 135-150 days at sea, not 165-185.

Should there be any concerns expressed by your colleagues in relation to the evidence I provided to the Committee, please do not hesitate to let me know so I may follow up the issues.

I'd like to apologise for any inconvenience that this error may have caused to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Hazel Bennett
Executive Director Finance and Services
Chief Finance Officer, CSIRO