



30 June 2023

Senator Jess Walsh  
Chair  
Senate Economics Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Walsh

On reviewing the Proof Hansard of the testimony given by CSIRO at the Senate Estimates hearing on 1 June 2023, we find that some of the information provided to the Committee would benefit from clarification.

The following exchange occurred between Senator Shoebridge and myself, Dr Peter Mayfield, Executive Director, Environment, Energy and Resources:

**Dr Mayfield:** He has no involvement in GISERA. The model that we apply—it's critical that the work that gets done there is independent. It is important it is raised independently. We have a range of research advisory committees which are in each jurisdiction—whether it's Queensland, Northern Territory, New South Wales—that are made up of different representatives. There are no gas industry representatives there, but there is a lot of community, and they have the balance of decision-making power. They determine the work that gets done. CSIRO delivers that work and uses its normal peer-review processes to ensure the integrity of that work. That's how we're undertaking that work. The companies, while they provide some funding, have no influence or say over what work gets done or how it's delivered.

I was referring to the fact that there are no industry representatives on the Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance (GISERA) Research Advisory Committees (RACs) in NSW.

I would like to clarify the statement made regarding industry representation on the GISERA RACs. There is no majority representation by industry on those committees. Three of the five current RACs do not have industry representation. Two of the five current RACs have minority industry representation (Northern Territory RAC 14 % and Queensland RAC 25 %).

I apologise for any inconvenience caused and ask that you alert other members of the Committee to this clarification.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Peter Mayfield**

Executive Director, Environment, Energy and Resources  
CSIRO

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Australia's National Science Agency