Senator Susan McDonald Chair Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator McDonald

I refer to the appearance of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the Department) before the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee at the Estimates Hearing on Tuesday, 20 October 2020. There were some technical inaccuracies in the evidence I gave that I would like to correct for the record.

The Department was asked a question about airlines expanding into capital city markets. The response appears in the Proof of Committee Hansard as follows:

Mr R Wood: To capital cities, no; to new markets, yes. Indeed, both of those operators have commenced operations to new markets or have announced operations. Indeed, Link – I think it was yesterday – announced they're going to start intercapital operations, as it happens, between Canberra and Hobart. It's not to the same scale; I'm not aware of anyone else looking to establish jet operations, as Rex are proposing to do.

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I write to provide the following correction to this discussion:

The announcement by Link Airways on 20 October 2020 was the commencement of services between Canberra and Newcastle. Link Airways had made an earlier announcement about commencing flights between Canberra and Hobart on 29 September 2020.

UNCLASSIFIED

I would appreciate if you could please note this for the information of the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Richard Wood
First Assistant Secretary
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

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