

Senate Economics Reference Committee

Future of Naval Shipbuilding in Australia

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: SERC - Future of Australia's Naval Shipbuilding Industry - Q2 - Pump Jet for Diesel-Electric Submarines - The Committee

Question reference number: 2

Senator: Chris Ketter

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 April 2018

Question:

2. Following comments made by Jean-Michel Billig (in a 31 October 2017 Defence connect article entitled 'Uncertainty over future submarine design') suggesting that the future submarine may end up with conventional propellers:
 - a. Is Defence still confident that Naval Group still hold the opinion that the pump-jet is well suited to diesel-electric submarines?
 - b. Has clarification been sought by Defence from Naval Group regarding the potential impact of the pump-jet on dived endurance and range?

Answer:

- a. Defence intends to use the pump jet propulsion system for the Future Submarine that was offered by Naval Group as part of their Competitive Evaluation Proposal and remains on offer to Australia.
- b. All parameters that influence dived endurance and range, and other performances of the Future Submarine, are regularly reviewed with Naval Group as design progresses.