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Australian Government
Department of Jobs and Small Business

Mr Stephen Palethorpe
Secretary
Standing Committee on Education and Employment
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Palethorpe

**Senate Education and Employment References Committee Inquiry into work
health and safety of workers in the offshore petroleum industry**

I refer to the public hearing conducted in Melbourne on 11 July 2018 in this Inquiry, where Mr Breen and I attended as witnesses on behalf of the Department of Jobs and Small Business (the Department). I undertook to provide the Committee with a list setting out the consultation with stakeholders undertaken in the development of the Seafarers and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 (described in paragraphs 24 – 28 of the Department's Submission) and subsequent discussions with stakeholders on the Bill. Attached is a list of the consultations over the last four years (**Attachment A**).

I would also like to clarify an issue raised with the Committee during the Inquiry hearings going to the coverage of the *Occupational Health and Safety (Maritime Industry) Act 1993* (the OHS(MI) Act). The Department's position on coverage of the OHS(MI) Act is outlined in paragraphs 29 – 31 of the Department's submission. The 500 metre petroleum safety zone around a facility established by NOPSEMA under the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* (OPGGs Act) has no impact on the coverage of the OHS(MI) Act.

Yours sincerely

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24 July 2018

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Seacare Bills Package (2015-16) - Industry and Union Stakeholder Consultation Led by the Department

This document is an updated version of a document provided to the Education and Employment Legislation Committee inquiry into the Seafarers and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 and related Bills (the Seafarers Safety and Compensation Bills package) in the Department of Employment's supplementary submission (submission 2.1 December 2016).

Date	Event	Seacare stakeholders invited
11 June 2015	1 st Industry/Union Workshop Consultation (Coverage)	• Australian Institute of Marine and Power Engineers (AIMPE) • Australian Maritime Officers Union (AMOU) • Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) • Australian Mines and Metals Association (AMMA) • Maritime Industry Australia Ltd (MIAL) • Mr Barry Sherriff (Chair, Seacare Authority and SRCC)*
26 June 2015	2 nd Industry/Union Workshop Consultation (Governance and Cost Recovery)	• AIMPE • AMOU • MUA • AMMA • MIAL • Mr Barry Sherriff
16 July 2015	3 rd Industry/Union Workshop Consultation (WHS)	• AIMPE • AMOU • AMMA* • MIAL (represented by SeaRoad Shipping representative) • MUA • Mr Barry Sherriff
6 August 2015	4 th Industry/Union Workshop Consultation (Workers' Compensation)	• AIMPE • AMOU • AMMA* • MIAL • MUA • Mr Barry Sherriff*
26 August 2015	5 th Industry/Union Workshop Consultation (teleconference) (Coverage)	• AIMPE* • AMOU* • AMMA* • MIAL • MUA
27 January 2016	Consultation RIS workshop*	• AMMA • MIAL • AON Risk Services

Date	Event	Seacare stakeholders invited
9 March 2016	1 st Legislation Preview	• AIMPE • AMOU • AMMA • MIAL • MUA*
4–5 April 2016	2 nd Legislation Preview	• AIMPE • AMOU • AMMA • MIAL • MUA

***Note:** Invited but did not attend

+ **Note:** The Department offered to hold a similar meeting with union stakeholders but they did not arrange a meeting

Consultation on Final Bills Package

Date	Event	Seacare stakeholders invited
August/ September 2016	Further discussions with stakeholders on proposed Bills Package	• AIMPE^x • AMOU^x • AMMA^x • MIAL • MUA

Subsequent consultation on changes to the Seacare Bills Package (2016-17)

2016

13 October	Seacare reform legislation introduced into the House of Representatives.
10 November	The Senate referred the Seacare Bills Package to the Education and Employment Legislation Committee (the Committee) for inquiry.
22 December	Meeting with ACTU and MUA regarding concerns with the Bill.

2017

7 February	The Committee's report tabled in the Senate.
11 May	Department commenced consultations on the next steps for Seacare Bills package.
23 May	Meeting with AIMPE.
31 May	Meeting with MIAL and AMMA.
1 June	MIAL and AMMA provided with draft outline of proposed changes.
19 June	Meeting with MUA, ACTU, AMOU and AIMPE.
29 June	Meeting with MIAL and AMMA.

12 July	Email provided to all stakeholders summarising proposed changes as discussed in bilateral meetings, with feedback requested.
August	Follow-up emails requesting comments for preparation of a discussion paper
26 September	MIAL views provided to the Department. Discussion paper circulated in advance of roundtable.
10 October	Roundtable discussion.
15 November	A second roundtable discussion held on two outstanding issues.
15, 21 and 24 November	Additional information on issues raised at the 15 November roundtable discussions and follow-up.
December (various)	Responses received from different stakeholders and Department replies

2018

29 January	Letters from the Department to stakeholders updating current position.
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