

CF16/236

19 November 2025

Chair  
Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

*Via email to: [eec.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:eec.sen@aph.gov.au)*

Dear Chair

On 10 November 2025, Professor Colin Stirling, Vice-Chancellor of Flinders University, engaged in the below exchange with Senator Mehreen Faruqi:

**Senator FARUQI:** *"So there are no staff facing job losses who are involved in researching the algal bloom devastation?"*

**Prof. Stirling:** *"I said there are a number of projects that are funded at the university or are a negotiation with state government and other parties to fund research into the algal bloom, and no-one who is affected by the recent changes at Flinders is involved in any of those projects."*

Subsequent to this hearing, Professor Stirling was informed by his Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) that advice was received on 23 September 2025 that one of the projects referred to above was successful in a small funding bid. This funding was granted to a group that included one individual affected by the change process.

Even though Professor Stirling was not aware of this at the time of the hearing, he wanted to provide the Committee with this information for the purpose of completeness and full transparency.

Yours sincerely

 Jayne Flanerty  
Chief of Staff