From: Tooni Mahto
To: Committee, EC (SEN)

Subject: Re: Inquiry into shark mitigation and deterrent measures - Questions taken on notice and proof hansard

Date: Tuesday, 16 May 2017 16:51:19

With regards to a question I took on notice from Sen Anne Urquhart about whether marine wildlife caught in shark nets attracts sharks to the nets, the comments in our submission are as follows:

"Unanswered questions remain regarding the risk that lethal shark control measures may actually attract high order predators to areas in which they are in use as these large sharks have been known to feed on animals such as dolphins and dugongs caught in nets or on drum lines."

We are unable to provide evidence regarding the possibility that trapped marine wildlife may attract sharks to the are because, as we point out in our submission, it is an unanswered question that we believe requires investigation.

There have been recorded incidences of killed marine wildlife eaten by predators, for example a reference in the Daily Mail online quoting Jeff Krause, the manager of the QLD Shark Control Program:

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1223001/Great-White-Shark-bitten-nearly-half-BIGGER-monster.html

AMCS suggest the Inquiry request information from the NSW and QLD shark control program managers regarding evidence of animals caught in nets showing signs of being eaten by sharks in order to assess the risk of the programs attracting larger sharks to the area around nets and drumlines.