



Senator Linda Reynolds CSC  
Chair, Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Reynolds

On 22 May 2017 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Estimates Hearing.

During the hearing Senator Waters said in relation to the Foreign Affairs Minister's comments on coral bleaching impacts

*"There is only one question here"*

In response I said

*"If you look at the whole reef, 93 per cent of the reef, or 3,000 reefs, showed some bleaching. Serious effects were felt last year in the northern third and this year in the southern third..."*

I wish to correct this answer. This year the bleaching occurred in the central third. The remainder of my answer to the question, given at the Hearing, is correct.

During the hearing Senator Waters said in relation to funding for monitoring

*'Is it a case that if you don't look you won't find it?'*

In response I said

*"...We are better equipped now than even after Cyclone Yasi in 2009..."*

I wish to correct this answer. Cyclone Yasi occurred in 2011. The remainder of my answer to the question, given at the Hearing, is correct.

I apologise for the error in my answers and trust this further information will be of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Russell Reichelt

Chairman  
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

15 June 2017