



**Australian Government**

**Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science**

Senator Sean Edwards  
Chair  
Senate Economics Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Edwards

On reviewing the Proof Hansard of the testimony that the department provided to the Senate Estimates hearing of 22 October 2015, it has been determined that some information provided to the Committee would benefit from clarification or correction.

During the discussions between Senator Carr and Dr Paterson (page 34-37):

**Dr Paterson:** The funding for the Synchrotron at the moment is secure for FY16, and that package of funding is in hand at the moment. However, we still are working collaboratively with all of the partners to secure the funding for the period from FY17 and into the future on an ongoing basis. The funding envelope on an annual basis is approximately \$30 million for the operational cost, and then, from the perspective of the capital asset, there is a requirement for \$6 million in what is called depreciation funding. This is cash that is made available for the operating upgrades and planned maintenance of the facility through its life. The third envelope of funding that is in discussion and in view for the future is the capital program, where there is a science case which has been developed for a number of new beamlines. New beamlines tend to have a capital cost of between about \$8 million and \$15 million and an associated operating cost of the order of \$2 million a year.

The financial years stated by Dr Paterson in this passage should be FY17 and FY18 respectively.

**Dr Paterson:** Across the forward estimates, if one took a four-year tranche from financial year 2017, that would be \$120 million for the operating cost and \$24 million for the essential capital maintenance and planned maintenance.

The financial year stated by Dr Paterson in this passage should be 2018.

**Dr Paterson:** At present we have one year of funding for financial year 2016, which is secured at the level of \$30 million. At this point we do not have a capital upgrade fund, but we have some provisions in the existing holding company for significant failures of capital at the level of about \$2 million. Should there be any concerns in relation to the evidence that was provided by the Department to the Committee please do not hesitate to let me know so that I may follow up the issues.

The financial year stated by Dr Paterson in this passage should be 2017.

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**Senator KIM CARR:** So you are a member of the holding company—you have part ownership of the holding company as well?

**Dr Paterson:** We have five per cent of the holding company.

The percentage stated by Dr Paterson in this passage should be 2.4 per cent.

During discussions with Senator Carr regarding the number of the department's ASL staffing, the following exchange occurred with Ms Beauchamp (page 62 of Hansard):

**Senator KIM CARR:** What is the FTE of the department now—the establishment of the department?

**Ms Beauchamp:** The FTE would be—in terms of headcount we probably have 2,679. But in terms of our ASL staffing, which is indicated in the budget papers it probably has not changed much since the budget. I think we are looking at a 25,388 ASL number..

The ASL number should be amended to 2,538.

The following exchange also occurred between Senator Carr and Ms Beauchamp (page 80):

**Senator KIM CARR:** Take that on notice as well, please. Have there been any changes in the FTE of the department as a result of the changes in the portfolio's responsibilities?

**Ms Beauchamp:** There have been some changes. For example, we had 51 staff go to the Department of the Environment in relation to the functions attached to ARENA. In relation to the Office of Northern Australia, we have had 14 positions come to the portfolio, plus also a number of secondments from Treasury, particularly in relation to the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility, and we have about 28 positions being transferred from the Department of Communications and the Arts as they relate to policy work around the digital economy.

The number of positions transferred from the Department of Communications and the Arts should be 26.

Senator Carr also asked a series of questions about the percentage of paper purchased by the department that was Australian made (page 99).

**Senator KIM CARR:** I want to know where the paper is made, not who owns the company. How much of the paper that you use is manufactured in Australia?

**Ms Beauchamp:** My understanding is that it is a whole-of-government contract—

**Ms Graham:** That is right.

**Ms Beauchamp:** through the Department of Finance. I will just need to confirm that.

**Ms Graham:** One of the companies has an Australian origin for the majority of copy paper. We purchase 78 per cent of our paper from that company.

**Senator KIM CARR:** I still want to know how much of that is made in Australia.

**Ms Graham:** We purchase under the whole-of-government contract. We understand that the majority of that copy paper has an Australian origin. That is all I can tell you.

**Senator KIM CARR:** What are the names of the two companies?

**Ms Graham:** Under the whole-of-government contract arrangement?

**Senator KIM CARR:** Yes.

**Ms Graham:** They are Staples Australia and Complete Office Supplies.

It has been confirmed that the 78 per cent refers to the amount of Australian made paper purchased from one of the two suppliers (Staples) in 2014-15. The total percentage of paper purchased by the department in 2014-15 that was Australian made was 10 per cent, noting that the majority of paper purchased by the department is from the second supplier (Complete Office Supplies) as a result of a value for money analysis.

I apologise for any inconvenience caused by these errors and ask that you alert other members of the Committee to these corrections.

Yours sincerely,

Vanessa Graham  
Chief Operating Officer

2 December 2015