



Australian Government
**Department of Industry,
Innovation and Science**

Senator Jane Hume
Chair
Senate Economics Legislation Committee
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Senator Hume

On reviewing the Proof Hansard of the testimony given by the department at the Senate Estimates hearing on 20 October 2016, we find that some of the information provided to the Committee would benefit from clarification and correction.

The following exchange occurred between Senator Chris Ketter; Ms Jayne Facey, General Manager, Industry, Structural Adjustment and Science Programmes, AusIndustry – Business Services; and I:

Senator KETTER: Can automotive supply chain manufacturers access the \$90 million next generation manufacturing program?

Ms Facey: They can. The guidelines were changed for round 2. Under round 1 of the program, there was a limitation in that regard, but that was changed for round 2 so that they could apply.

Senator KETTER: So if they are registered under the ATS they can now apply?

Ms Facey: They could, but of course round 2 is now being finalised. And there is a small amount of money remaining—\$546,000. But we are still finalising the contracts from round 2 and it is possible that perhaps another offer could be made, depending on the final sum of the contracts—

Senator KETTER: So, in previous rounds, if they were registered with the ATS they were not eligible?

Ms Facey: No, they were eligible for round 2.

Ms Butler: There were two rounds of the next generation program run. In the second round they were eligible to apply for that round.

The Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Programme guidelines were amended for Round 2 to allow businesses eligible for the Automotive Diversification Programme to apply. However, contrary to the advice provided at the hearing, the programme guidelines were not amended to allow current Automotive Transformation Scheme registrants to apply.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused and ask that you alert other members of the Committee to this correction.

Yours sincerely

Chris Butler
Head of Division
AusIndustry – Business Services

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industry.gov.au
Industry House - 10 Binara Street, Canberra City, ACT 2601
GPO Box 9839 Canberra ACT 2601 ABN: 74 599 608 295