



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development

Mr Tim Watling  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Watling

**Correction of Evidence Provided to Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport  
Legislation Committee on 8 February 2016**

I am writing in relation to evidence provided to the Committee by the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development during the Estimates hearing on 8 February 2016.

During the proceedings the following conversation took place between Senator Conroy, Mr Michael Sutton and Mr Mike Mrdak (at page 93 of the Hansard record):

***Senator CONROY:** Has the delegate produced reasons for the decision to grant a temporary licence to Alcoa made in October 2015 for some 17 voyages up to October 2016 for the transportation of alumina from WA ports for MV Portland? Have you produced written reasons?*

***Mr Sutton:** I think the answer to that is yes. It was done in the context of the Federal Court action that was initiated by the Maritime Union of Australia.*

***Senator CONROY:** Are they publicly available? Were they tendered in court or were they an in-camera briefing?*

***Mr Sutton:** They were certainly tendered in court.*

***Mr Mrdak:** We would be happy to take on notice to provide those to you.*

***Senator CONROY:** Why do you need to take that on notice if it was tendered publicly in court?*

***Mr Mrdak:** Well, I do not have them with me. If they have been tendered in court we will provide them to the committee.*

***Senator CONROY:** Surely an email can get them to the committee reasonably quickly.*

***Mr Mrdak:** I will endeavour to do that.*

I wish to advise that no document identifying the reasons for the decision to grant a temporary licence to Alcoa in October 2015 was produced or tendered in court.

Yours sincerely

Judith Zielke  
Deputy Secretary  
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development

15 February 2016