



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Senator Nita Green
Committee Chair
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Chair

The Home Affairs Portfolio appeared at the Senate Estimates Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee hearing on 23 October 2023.

In my capacity as Acting First Assistant Secretary, Industry Partnerships and Infrastructure Policy Division, I gave evidence to the Senate. I have since reviewed the Hansard record. In relation to my evidence, I have become aware of the need to correct a response I made to a question from Senator Polley.

The particular reference for correction is on page 20 in response to the question from Senator Polley:

What plans are underway to add any additional assets?

My response to this question included:

... We've done some internal work on pulling together a list. It is quite an undertaking to do the analysis to determine whether those assets might meet the thresholds as set out in section 51 of the SOCI Act, but we're pulling that together and we expect in due course that we'll advise the Minister for Home Affairs that she may wish to commence that consultation process with those responsible entities.

In providing this response, I inadvertently referred section 51 of the *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018* (Cth) (SOCI Act). The correct reference is section 52B of the SOCI Act. For the avoidance of doubt, I provide the full correction of evidence in response to this question:

We've done some internal work on pulling together a list. It is quite an undertaking to do the analysis to determine whether those assets might meet the thresholds as set out in section 52B of the SOCI Act, but we're pulling that together and we expect in due course that we'll advise the Minister for Home Affairs that she may wish to commence that consultation process with those responsible entities.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide this clarification.

Yours sincerely

Michael Burke
First Assistant Secretary
Immigration Policy
08 November 2023