

OFFICIAL



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

Senator Jess Walsh
Chair
Senate Economics Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Walsh

On reviewing the Proof Hansard of the testimony given by the department at the Senate Estimates hearing on 15 February 2024, we find that some of the information provided to the Committee would benefit from clarification and correction.

The following exchange occurred between Senator Barbara Pocock and Mr Gavin McCosker, Chief Finance Officer:

Senator BARBARA POCOCK: I don't have the numbers in front of me.

Mr McCosker: No problems at all. To start with, we have one with our Australian Space Agency for \$123,000. That was issued for research services. We have one contract for our Business Grants Hub and Integrity Division of \$129,000. That was looking at the analysis for manufacturing related programs specific to the Modern Manufacturing Initiative program. We have a contract to the value of \$2.5 million, which was for an assurance partner for our departmental grants administration activities. We have a contract for \$730,000 for management-initiated review services, a part of our internal audit program. We have a contract of \$79,000 for professional advice on payroll system assurance activities. We have a contract of \$1.3 million for professional advice—again, relating to our grants activities—that was in relation to the collaboration stream of our grants activities. There was another one for \$251,000, which was for the development of a critical technology economic analysis framework. I can certainly provide a bit more detail.

In providing his response, Mr McCosker referenced a contract value of \$123,000, however the correct value for this contract is \$206,393. The figure given, \$123,000, was the current spend amount as opposed to the total contract value.

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

Yours sincerely

Gavin McCosker
Chief Finance Officer

22 March 2024