



**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 I gave at the Senate Estimates hearing on 26 October 2023, I have found some of the information provided to the Committee would benefit from correction.

The following exchange occurred between Senator Pocock and me:

**Senator BARBARA POCOCK:** Thanks for taking that on notice. I look forward to that. Is the department aware of an allegation that one of the department's contractors, Northgate Australia, assisted one of the winning tenderers and that contractor was paid a \$900,000 success fee or thereabouts?

**Mr Mason:** I think I need to take it on notice. I'm not aware of a success fee. But there may well have been questions through the process where people asked the department about the program and whether it was in relation to that particular company. I'd have to take that on notice.

After the hearing, I have checked my records and can confirm I have been contacted about what I believe relates to Senator Pocock's questions.

At the time, I couldn't recall the reference and apologise for the error in my evidence and any inconvenience this may have caused. I ask that you alert other members of the Committee to this correction.

Yours sincerely

Neal Mason  
Deputy Secretary

15 November 2023