



1 July 2024

Ms Pothida Youhorn
Committee Secretary
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Youhorn

I write to advise of a factual error and to clarify one point in my evidence to the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee Budget hearing from 3-4 June 2024.

I apologise to the Committee for the error, which I detected on reviewing Hansard's draft record of the hearings. I ask that you advise Committee members of my correction.

In response to a question from Senator Chandler on 3 June on representations made to China's Ambassador to Australia concerning his comments on a parliamentary delegation to Taiwan, I said "I spoke with the Ambassador on 14 May in regard to his comments." (p.36 draft Hansard). In fact, I spoke to the Ambassador on 15 May.

Separately, in response to a question from Senator Birmingham on 4 June concerning impediments to Australian live rock lobster exports to China, I said "The noncompliance was issued to two exporters and they haven't received import permits since." (p. 53 draft Hansard).

I wish to clarify that it is not the two exporters who haven't received import permits since, but their Chinese business partners. Unfortunately, this does not change the impact on Australian exporters.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Sloper PSM
First Assistant Secretary
East Asia Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade