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11 June 2024

Ms Bonnie Allan
Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Allan

Correction: Statements at Budget Estimates Hearing, 31 May 2024

I write to correct my response to a question asked of me during the Budget Estimates Hearing of the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee, on Friday, 31 May 2024.

During the proceedings, Senator Birmingham asked me when ASC last had two boats ‘out of the water’ at our Osborne facility. I responded that ‘it would have been around the time of the Coles Review, around 2012’.

My statement was incorrect. Between June 2022 – October 2022, there was a full cycle docking (FCD) overlap with HMAS Dechaineux and HMAS Sheean. During September 2022, both submarines were ‘out of the water’ with Dechaineux docked during Sheean’s FCD to undertake some rectification work.

HMAS Dechaineux then proceeded into licencing and defect rectification activities, which involved the boat being alongside at ASC’s Osborne facility intermittently until April 2023. During this period HMAS Rankin and later, HMAS Waller undertook planned intermediate dockings at ASC’s Henderson facility.

To clarify, after every FCD, the boat goes through an approximate two-week defect rectification period before it transits back to Western Australia.

ASC works closely and transparently with the Naval Shipbuilding & Sustainment Group (NSSG) to deliver safe and reliable submarine availability to the Royal Australian Navy.

Yours sincerely,



Stuart Whiley
Managing Director & CEO
ASC Pty Ltd