



Senator Glenn Sterle
Chair
Senate Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Sterle

On 13 February 2024 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee Estimates hearing.

During the hearing Senator Faruqi said in relation to a maximum voyage time

"Thank you. You've also said in your reasons that the department had never before approved a voyage over 60 days in duration and that if you approved the re-export application, the total voyage time would have exceeded 65 days and possibly even 70 days. Is there a maximum voyage time beyond which the department will not consider approval?"

In response I said

"We don't have a maxim Senator. What we classify as an extended long-haul voyage is 31 days or greater, under the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock. So anything that's greater than 31 days is an extended long-haul journey and requires additional assurances from us around the health and welfare of the livestock on board. The previous longest journey was back in 2018, and that was 51 days."

I wish to correct this answer. The previous longest journey departed in November 2008, and that was 51 days. The remainder of my answer to the question, given at the hearing, is correct.

I apologise for the error in my answer and trust this further information will be of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Andrew McDonald
Acting First Assistant Secretary
Plant and Live Exports, Welfare and Regulation Division
5 March 2024