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Senate Select Committee on Australia's COVID-19 response
Committee Secretary
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee,

RE: Questions on notice

Thank you for providing Pfizer Australia with the opportunity to appear before the Committee on 28 January 2021 to discuss the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and specifically the provision of Pfizer's vaccine.

Since Pfizer's appearance before the Committee we have marked the regulatory approval of our COVID-19 vaccine Comirnaty™ in New Zealand as well as an agreement to provide an additional 10 million doses to Australia.

Please see attached a summary of the items taken on notice and our responses to each. We recognise the important work of this Committee and their analysis of these key issues.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Harris
Managing Director
Pfizer Australia and New Zealand

Senate select committee on Australia's response to COVID-19

Question: Senator Keneally: Media reports call it an export control. If you could take that on notice and come back with some clarity as to what your understanding is—

Pfizer: We would direct the Committee's attention to a recent press release issued by the European Commission on 29/1/2021 - https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_21_314

We are committed to delivering on our agreement with the Federal Government to supply 20 million doses of our COVID-19 vaccine Comirnaty™ and we will continue to work closely with the Government to support their vaccine implementation plans.

Question: Senator Keneally: On 5 November last year Minister Hunt indicated that each vaccine agreement had a scheduled delivery date. Are there any conditions on Pfizer about meeting the delivery schedule?

Pfizer: The Pfizer vaccine is currently available in more than 40 countries worldwide. The interim timelines in supply agreements are subject to a number of factors such as regulatory approvals, capacity and manufacturing timelines. These considerations will in turn refine quarterly supply projections and delivery schedules.

Supply is conditional on regulatory approval and a fully executed direct supply agreement. In Australia, we now have TGA approval and are committed to delivering on our agreement with the Federal Government to supply 20 million doses of our COVID-19 vaccine and remain on track to deliver the first of those doses by late February.

Question: Senator Siewert: So, if an export control is put in place, can you still guarantee delivery for the end of February by switching to one of your other manufacturing sites? Has that been written into the contract you have with government?

Pfizer: We can confirm that we remain on track to deliver the first doses of our COVID-19 vaccine Comirnaty™ by late February.

Question: Senator Paterson: Sure, but obviously there are a number of things you need to do after the TGA grants approval and before you ship to Australia and it's rolled out. What kind of ballpark figure did you give the government about how long that period would need to be?

Pfizer: We are committed to supplying pursuant to the terms of our supply agreement with the Commonwealth and we remain on track to deliver the first doses of our COVID vaccine Comirnaty™ by late February, which will be within one month of TGA approval.