



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**  
Defence Materiel Organisation

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**Mr David Sullivan**  
Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on  
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Sullivan,

I write to clarify evidence that I gave at the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee hearing held on 20 November 2013 concerning Defence Vessel *Ocean Shield*.

In support of Mr King's response in answering Senator Heffernan's question on maritime and ocean (page 73 of Proof Hansard Wednesday, 20 November 2013), I am quoted as saying "Citizenship was not a requirement of the contract but they do conform to the Australian maritime Safety Authority regulations for certification for the vessel being operated in Australian waters." This quote should instead read, "I do not know if citizenship was a requirement of the contract ..."

In addition, and in the same section dealing with *Ocean Shield* (page 73), I wish to clarify my earlier comments as follows:

"... released on Aus Tender on 5 April 2012."  
"... the Baltic and International Maritime Council Ship Management Template..."  
"... held on 18 April 2012 in Cairns on Ocean Shield sister ship ..."  
"... closed on 30 April 2013 and we received four tenders."

I apologise for any misunderstanding that may have arisen.

Yours sincerely

**RADM Mark Purcell**  
Head Maritime Systems  
Defence Materiel Organisation

22 November 2013