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Alistair Sands  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration  
Department of the Senate  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Sands

**Corrections of the Hansard transcript of Additional Estimates hearing.**

I am writing to provide clarification and corrections to some AEC responses at the Estimates hearings of the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration held on Tuesday, 13 February 2007.

The AEC seeks correction of the transcript as follows:

1. At F&PA 100, paragraph 4, Senator Faulkner asked what presence the AEC had at the most recent Australia Day citizenship ceremonies. In his reply, Mr Pickering incorrectly advised that there were 338 ceremonies of which the AEC attended 219. There were in fact 360 citizenship ceremonies of which the AEC attended 219.
2. At F&PA 102, paragraph 16, Senator Faulkner asked about the number of people trying to enroll on the day of the Victorian election. In his explanation of the statistics Mr Moyes incorrectly stated that 'These are statistics based on the source code on the enrolment application. These have a code of E on them, which relates to election applications received at the election.' The source code E actually relates to *enrolment* applications received at the election.

The significance of the source code E also requires further clarification. The source code E relates to enrolment applications that have been provided to the AEC from state electoral commissions. At the time of an election the bulk of the E code applications will relate to those collected on polling day. However, there may be some with source code E that were not collected on polling day, but in the period either before or after, depending on the activities of the state electoral commission at that time.

The applications collected on polling day may also have a code other than E, and as a result not be recorded in statistics as such. For example, it is possible that the voter will bring an application with them to the polling place with a code of C (sent to the voter in a review mail out) or P (collected from a post office). While the bulk of the

applications received on polling day will have the code of E, the statistics recorded in the AEC systems will not correlate exactly to the number collected on polling day.

3. At F&PA 101, paragraph 11, Senator Faulkner asked about the increase in the national enrolment figure since the end of the last financial year. In reply, Mr Moyes stated that the increase in the national enrolment figure from 30 June 2006 to the end of January 2007 was 119,222. This figure is correct but does not relate exactly to the new total enrolment figure given at the top of F&PA 102. The figure Mr Moyes gave relates to the increase taking into account all enrolment, including for those 17 years old and who are state only electors.

The figure given at the top of F&PA 102 (which is rounded - the actual number was 13,199,552) is the number of electors at 31 January 2007 who are 18 years and above, and excludes state only electors. If comparing the enrolment of 18 years and above and excluding state only electors, the increase in enrolment from 30 June 2006 to 31 January 2007 is 118,013.

4. At F&PA102, paragraphs 16 and 20, Senator Faulkner asked about the number of people trying to enrol on polling day for both the Queensland and Victoria elections. Mr Dacey read out sets of figures for both of these elections, however, the descriptors for these statistics are incorrect.

The first set of figures regarding polling day enrolments for the Queensland election should read as follows:

**Mr Dacey**—On polling day, 2,725 were new enrolments; 15,474, re-enrolments—small numbers—1,117, interstate; 11,247, intrastate; 9,200, intradivision, where people lodged a form but did not need to, obviously; and 2,500 no movement and about 20 others. That is about 42,000.

The second set of figures regarding polling day enrolments for the Victoria should read as follows:

**Mr Dacey**—They are (in rounded figures): 2,800 new enrolments for Victoria; 12,500 re-enrolments; 600 enrolments interstate; 10,000, intrastate; 7,500 intradivision; and 3,100 no movement and 65 other enrolments.

Could you please bring these matters to the attention of the Committee.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely



Paul Dacey  
Deputy Electoral Commissioner

27 March 2007