



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Submarine Agency**



**Rachel Parry**

A/g Deputy Secretary

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

GPO Box 3090

Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Rachel,

**Strategic Assessment Agreement for the Osborne Submarine Construction Yard, South Australia.**

Thank you for your letter of 16 November 2023, inviting the Australian Submarine Agency to enter into an agreement with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) to undertake the Strategic Assessment of the Submarine Construction Yard in Osborne, South Australia.

The Submarine Construction Yard Strategic Assessment is a critical step in supporting the delivery of the optimal pathway and Australia's sovereign SSN-AUKUS capability. I take this opportunity to thank you for your collaboration in developing the strategic assessment to date, and to provide my formal endorsement of the Strategic Assessment Agreement.

We remain cognisant that the Australian Government is committed to a program of reforms aligned with the *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) Review. We understand that strategic assessments complement and support the broader objective of environmental and heritage protection in Australia.

I look forward to continuing our relationship with DCCEEW to deliver the Submarine Construction Yard in Osborne while upholding the highest standard of environmental protection.

Yours sincerely,

**Jonathan Mead, AO**

Vice Admiral, Royal Australian Navy

Director General Australian Submarine Agency

22 November 2023

**Enclosure:**

A. Strategic Assessment Agreement



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