



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Submarine Agency**  
Director-General

BN67405228  
23/OUT/003

**Dr Gillian Hirth**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency  
619 Lower Plenty Road  
Yallambie, VIC 3085

Dear Dr Hirth

On the inauguration of the Australian Submarine Agency, I wish to express my deep gratitude and personal thanks for your support to the Nuclear Powered Submarine Taskforce over the past two years. Without ARPANSA's steady guidance and your personal commitment, the Optimal Pathway would not be a reality.

We have overcome a number of obstacles to date, and I acknowledge the many challenges yet to come – I believe that our continued collaboration is essential as the Australian Submarine Agency pivots to delivering in earnest Australia's nuclear-powered submarine capability. I look forward to your ongoing support, and the expertise ARPANSA brings.

Yours sincerely

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**JD Mead, AO**  
Vice Admiral, Royal Australian Navy  
Director-General  
Australian Submarine Agency

// July 2023

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