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Edward Mountain
Convenor
Net Zero, Energy & Transport Committee
Scottish Parliament
EH99 1SP

28 October, 2022

Dear Mr Mountain,

Update on Hulls 801 & 802

An important issue has arisen with the LNG system on Glen Sannox and I write today in the interests of keeping the Committee properly informed.

Progress with the installation of the LNG system on the ship continues as planned within the programme although a technical design issue has just surfaced which will delay the commissioning of the LNG system. To comply with Classification and safety related rules applying to the bunkering operations, bespoke vacuum sensors are required in the system, and these are made to order, unfortunately, on a 36-week lead time from the supplier. They advise they are affected by global supply chain issues and hence, whilst we hope for a faster supply, it is unlikely to be much better.

I raised this with our board earlier this week and with SG & CMAL today. Our emerging proposal to deal with this, is to maintain the programme for handover of the ship by the end of May latest, initially running only with the diesel, single fuel system. The LNG system will be essentially complete on ship by this time and hence we believe we can install the sensors later whilst the vessel is in service during next summer.

There will be a need for a commissioning window of perhaps 2-4 weeks at Ardrossan after installation and of course, we need to secure agreement from SG, CMAL and Calmac to our proposed approach to this. It will be for them, as our client, to decide when the best timing is for deferred commissioning at Ardrossan and indeed to agree that the vessel can start with a single fuel operation.

Yours sincerely,

David Tydeman
Chief Executive Officer