



September 21, 2011

Mr. Robert Fonberg
Deputy Minister
National Defence
101 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K2

Re: PBO Information Request IR0053

Dear Mr. Fonberg:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Fonberg'.

Pursuant to my mandate to provide independent analysis to the Senate, the House of Commons, Members of Parliament, and the Canadian public under s. 79.2(a) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, 1985, my office is currently looking into Canada's planned purchase of two Joint Support Ships with the option of a third.

We have received two requests to engage in this costing analysis. Our analysis is now nearing the stage of modelling. Shortly thereafter, we will begin cataloguing our findings and publishing them on our website.

I am of the view that it would be very helpful to receive instruction from your department on how Canada intends to move forward with its procurement plans. Should you or your officials have time to meet with representatives of my office and me, I should be very grateful.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please let us know if any part of this request requires clarification.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Page'.

Kevin Page
Parliamentary Budget Officer