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12 May 2026

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC
Chair
Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts
Parliament House
Hobart TAS 7000

Email: simon.scott@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Chair,

Clarification of Berthing and Holding Costs – SOT IV and SOT V

I write to clarify the costs associated with holding SOT IV and SOT V in port prior to their entry into service, following recent enquiries.

For completeness, the table below summarises the monthly costs incurred at various locations:

Site	Cost per month / per vessel
Leith – Final Cost – SOT IV	\$0.85m
Leith – Final Cost – SOT V	\$0.6m
Hobart MAC2/3 – SOT IV	\$1.2m
Geelong Harbour at Anchor – SOT IV	\$0.9m
Williamstown / Station Pier (average)	\$0.7m

It is important to note that what are commonly referred to as “berthing fees” make up only a relatively small portion of the total cost of holding a vessel in port. Across the examples above, berthing fees typically account for approximately 5% to 17% of the total monthly cost. The Hobart estimate provided above excludes the berthing fee component.

The primary cost drivers are:

- Crewing costs, which represent approximately 60% to 70% of the total; and
- Fuel costs, which can account for a further 17%.

Accordingly, the total cost of holding vessels in port is largely driven by operational and readiness requirements rather than port access charges alone.

I trust this clarifies the composition of these costs. Please let me know if any further information would assist the Committee.

Should you have any further questions, please email luke.curtain@spiritoftasmania.com.au

Yours sincerely

Chris Carbone

Chris Carbone
Chief Executive Officer
TT-Line Company Pty Ltd