



Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd  
Municipal Buildings  
Fore St  
Port Glasgow PA14 5EQ

Tel: 01475 749920  
Fax: 01475 745109

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

08 August 2024

Dear Mr Mountain,

### **Interim Update on MV Isle of Islay (NB1092)**

I write to give you an update on MV Isle of Islay. In our update letter to you 28 June 2024 we reported that the vessel is at the outfitting stage and entering the commissioning phase. Since the last update, the main engines/generators have been set to work, successfully started up and run, the engine auxiliary systems have been energised and started up.

I can report the quality of the workmanship and construction of the vessel is fully meeting requirements, with high levels of activity, supervision, engineering and co-ordination. The ship layout, compartment arrangement and access and flow throughout is excellent. We have a supervision team of 7, including a Master and Chief Engineer on site providing oversight of the design, construction, commissioning and operability of the 4 vessels, in addition the CMAL Director of Vessels and CMAL Technical Manager are on site regularly for extended periods. MV Isle of Islay is the first in class design and construction of the new standard CalMac major vessels, with each new first of class ship having different challenges to overcome. I can report that the relationship between CMAL, CalMac and Cemre is strong, and we are working together every day to achieve the ships that will serve Island communities for many years to come.

External challenges have impacted the delivery date for MV Isle of Islay (NB1092), which will move the delivery date from the previously advised date of mid-October 2024 towards the end of 2024, still within the contractual delivery period. It is not clear at this present time to provide you and stakeholders with an exact delivery date; with the known work still to complete, but initial assessments indicate a couple of months. During the commissioning phase and outfitting phase, we will have an indication of how smoothly these activities are going which will allow us to advise realistic dates of delivery.

Global supply chain events have affected the schedule for the supply and delivery of materials and equipment, which has been challenging for all New Build Shipbuilding contracts, the incursion in the Red Sea means that much of the main equipment is routing around the Horn of Africa adding many weeks to journey times. There have been major challenges the yard has had to overcome in the programme; the war in Ukraine affecting the supply of steel, the devastating earthquake in southeastern Türkiye, which led to a serious loss of manpower in



Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd  
Municipal Buildings  
Fore St  
Port Glasgow PA14 5EQ

Tel: 01475 749920  
Fax: 01475 745109

the shipyard, with many of the workers in the yard and subcontractors travelling to the region to assist in the rescue operations.

We will continue to provide you and all stakeholders with regular updates regarding all 4 vessels under construction. Our next update is due at the end of September 2024, but should we have further information in the meantime we will advise the NZETS Committee. The team at Cemre and our site personnel are working every day to make maximum progress towards ultimate delivery.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Hobbs  
Chief Executive Officer

for and on behalf of  
Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited