Dear Premier and Commissioner.

The Nautical Institute of SE Australia are concerned at the level of misrepresentation and misinformation that is being promulgated regarding the maritime industry especially the cruise industry.

As the institute representing maritime professionals we are concerned for our industry and colleagues, particularly those at sea. Following the recent announcements, we have particular concern for the Captains and crews of the cruise ships that have been ordered to leave Australian waters.

The Nautical Institute is the global body for maritime professionals. It is a non-governmental organisation with consultative status at the International Maritime Organization. The aim of the NI is to represent seafarers’ and practical maritime professionals’ views at the highest levels. The NI engages with membership through local branches. The NI South East Australia Branch is made up of maritime professionals with a range of experience across the domain including ships’ masters, harbour masters, port officers, investigators and maritime lawyers. We are a source of maritime expertise and offer our assistance to you in these unique and testing circumstances.

We are also ready to engage with the media to advise them.

The attached letter advises what we believe needs proper consideration.

Yours aye,

Christopher Rynd FNI

Chairman for SE Australia.