



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources**

DEPUTY SECRETARY

Senator Barry O'Sullivan
Chair
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT

Dear Senator

Having reviewed the proof Hansard of the Additional Estimates hearing conducted by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on Tuesday 27 February 2018, I wish to make a correction.

The correction relates to a response by me to a question by Senator Sterle. The relevant dialogue is on page 81 of the proof Hansard:

Senator STERLE: Could you tell us what advice the department provided the minister with about the role and Mr. Burke's suitability for it?

Ms. O'Connell: We didn't, Senator. We advised the minister that we would engage someone to do some promotional work, but we didn't advise who it was at that point. We sought agreement to go out and seek people.

I wish to clarify that part of my answer, that "we didn't advise who it was at that point" was incorrect as attached to the advice to the Minister was a list of potential communications providers and this list included Mr. Burke's name as well as other potential providers.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the transcript of the Additional Budget Estimates hearing.

Yours sincerely

Lyn O'Connell

5 March 2018