

06 November 2023

Senator Glenn Sterle
Chair
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Senator Sterle,

I refer to the appearance of Infrastructure Australia before the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee at the supplementary budget estimates hearing on Monday 23 October 2023.

In answering a question from the Committee as to whether Infrastructure Australia had been asked to do any work on the Cairns Water Project, I provided evidence that as Infrastructure Australia generally only assesses projects seeking in excess of \$250m of Commonwealth Government funding, the project was unlikely to be referred to our agency.

I write to provide a correction to the latter part of this evidence. In 2019, Infrastructure Australia received a stage 1 (problem identification) submission from the Cairns Regional Council regarding water security for the Cairns Region.

This submission was reviewed and, while we recognised the existing and future infrastructure problem, it was deemed not to meet our national significance threshold and as such was not included on Infrastructure Australia's Infrastructure Priority List.

I would appreciate it if you could please note this for the information of the Committee.

Your sincerely,

Adam Copp
Chief Executive Officer
Infrastructure Australia