



**The Hon. David Littleproud MP**

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**Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources  
Federal Member for Maranoa**

Ref: MC19-001904

Senator Glenn Sterle  
Senator for Western Australia  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

- 1 APR 2019

Dear Senator Sterle

Thank you for your letter of 14 February 2019 regarding the Australian Government's response to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee's inquiry into the effect of consolidation on the red meat processing sector.

The government carefully considered the issues raised by the Committee in both its interim and final reports. In responding to the Committee's inquiry, the government provided a consolidated and single response to both the Committee's interim and final reports. My position is that the government has therefore responded to the interim report's recommendations.

As highlighted in the government's response to the final report tabled in December 2018, there is scope for the red meat industry to benefit from greater transparency in information sharing and improved structural and representative arrangements. However, the government supports industry self-determination and self-regulation, and it is largely up to industry to demonstrate leadership and adopt practices that support sustainable industry transformation.

Thank you again for raising this matter with me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Littleproud'.

**DAVID LITTLEPROUD MP**