

Office of the Chief Executive

Senator Susan McDonald
Chair
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs
and Transport Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator McDonald

On 26 March 2021 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee Estimates hearing.

Page 53, Hansard transcript of 26 March 2021

During the hearing Senator McKenzie said in relation to environmental damage to the Barmah Choke and Goulburn River:

“Do you envisage further environmental damage to the Barmah Choke and the Goulburn River if more water is recovered?”

In response I said:

“... We take water off at Yarrawonga upstream and deliver it back into the Edward/ Kolety-Wakool system and then back to the Murray.”

I wish to correct this answer to:

We take water off at Yarrawonga upstream and deliver it back into the Edward - Wakool system and then back to the Murray

The remainder of my answer to the question, given at the hearing, is correct.

Page 58, Hansard transcript of 26 March 2021

Additionally, during the hearing Senator Ruston said in relation to Menindee Lakes and constraints:

“So what measure is it?”

In response I said:

“It is not an SDL project. It is part of our arrangements to manage the river on behalf of joint governments to deliver allocations under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan.”

I wish to correct this answer to:

“It is not an SDL project. It is part of our arrangements to manage the river on behalf of joint governments to deliver allocations under the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement.”

The remainder of my answer to the question, given at the hearing, is correct.

I apologise for the error in my answer and trust this further information will be of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Reynolds
Acting Chief Executive
Murray-Darling Basin Authority

30 April 2021