

Office of the Chief Executive

TRIM Ref: D18/52463

Senator O'Sullivan
Chair

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT

Dear Senator

Re: Hansard Correction – Friday 26 October 2018

I have reviewed the proof Hansard of the Supplementary Estimates 2018 hearing conducted by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on Friday 26 October 2018 and I wish to make three factual corrections. I have provided them as *Attachment A* to this letter.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the transcript of the Supplementary Estimates 2018 hearing.

Yours sincerely

Phillip Glyde

Chief Executive

Murray-Darling Basin Authority

14/11/18

**Corrections to Hansard of Supplementary Estimates hearing on
Friday 26 October 2018**

Correction 1:

The correction relates to a question by Senator Storer which can be found on page 14 of the proof Hansard:

"I'll try and explain in general terms, and Mr Binning may correct me. Essentially, there was a method that was determined and set into the Basin Plan to calculate what the environmental benefits would be of these particular projects. That method is being designed now. Our role, as MDBA, was to operate the method so that, as the states provided projects and firmed up their projects, we would be, if you like, the umpire, and we would say, 'Collectively, those projects are worth X-hundred gigalitres.' The logic of the reconciliation is to take that same method and use that method in 2024 to see whether or not those projects delivered those environmental outcomes. That's the fundamental basis, and that's how the plan has been established, to make sure that we do achieve the environmental outcomes from these projects. They're really about making sure that we use water to benefit the environment in as efficient a way as we can. Mr Binning might wish to augment that answer."

I wish to highlight to the committee that on page 14 I mistakenly stated the above and the corrected answer is provided below.

"I'll try and explain in general terms, and Mr Binning may correct me. Essentially, there was a method that was determined and set into the Basin Plan to calculate what the environmental benefits would be of these particular projects. That method has been designed now. Our role, as MDBA, was to operate the method so that, as the states provided projects and firmed up their projects, we would be, if you like, the umpire, and we would say, 'Collectively, those projects are worth X-hundred gigalitres.' The logic of the reconciliation is to take that same method and use that method in 2024 to see whether or not those projects delivered those environmental outcomes. That's the fundamental basis, and that's how the plan has been established, to make sure that we do achieve the environmental outcomes from these projects. They're really about making sure that we use water to benefit the environment in as efficient a way as we can. Mr Binning might wish to augment that answer."

Correction 2:

I would like to make a correction to Mr Reynold's response to a question by Senator Gallacher. The relevant dialogue is on page 16 of the Hansard:

“Yes. That project is being delivered by the South Australian government. Extensive work is being done around the science and the effects of the south east drainage flows and the impacts on the Coorong. Recently the South Australian minister convened a technical forum and an expert science forum to look at the science around that, and seek consensus amongst people with expertise in that area. Those forums were held in September, from memory—I could check the dates. Reports on the outcomes are being prepared and will be available soon.”

I wish to highlight to the committee that on page 16 Mr Reynolds mistakenly stated the above and the corrected answer is provided below.

“Yes. That project is being delivered by the South Australian government. Extensive work is being done around the science and the effects of the south east drainage flows and the impacts on the Coorong. Recently the South Australian minister convened a technical forum and an expert science forum to look at the science around that, and seek consensus amongst people with expertise in that area. The forums were a science workshop held on 25 May 2018 and a technical forum held on 5 June 2018. Reports on the outcomes are being prepared and will be available soon.”

Correction 3:

I would like to make a correction to Mr Binning’s response to a question by Senator Gallacher. The relevant dialogue is on page 25 of the Hansard:

“To my recollection, the last two you've mentioned are the same process. The answer's yes.”

I wish to highlight to the committee that on page 25 Mr Binning mistakenly stated the above and the corrected answer is provided below.

“The answer's yes.”