

7 April 2016

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Watling

Inquiry into the Primary Industries Levies and Charges Collection Amendment Bill 2016

In a November 2014 submission to the Committee's inquiry into 'Industry structures and systems governing the imposition and disbursement of marketing and research and development (R&D) levies in the agricultural sector', ASA expressed its satisfaction with the existing levy system.

In that submission ASA specifically acknowledged and supported the Sugar Research Australia (SRA) submission to the inquiry and in particular its stated commitment to broad-based, open and transparent communication and consultation with its levy payers.

Without direct access to its levy payers SRA must rely on a range of indirect communication strategies and assistance of industry organisations to reach all of its levy payers with key messages and information.

It is ASA's belief, that providing there are no privacy issues involved that contact details required to establish a sugar levy payer register should be made available to SRA via the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.

ASA foundation members, CANEGROWERS and the Australian Sugar Milling Council commit to working closely together to ensure the required contact information on levy payers is made available for a sugar levy payer register.

The Australian Sugar Industry Alliance would be pleased to provide any additional information.

Yours faithfully

John Pratt
Chairman
Australian Sugar Industry Alliance

Paul Schembri
Deputy Chairman
Australian Sugar Industry Alliance