



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources**

Ref: D17/288406

Senator the Hon. Barry O'Sullivan
Chair
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs
and Transport Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator O'Sullivan

Having reviewed the proof Hansard of the Budget Estimates hearing conducted by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee on Thursday 25 May 2017, I wish to make the following corrections.

The correction relates to my response to a question from Senator Sterle about the Rural Research and Development for Profit programme. The relevant dialogue is on page 47 of the proof Hansard:

Senator STERLE: Yes, sorry, \$9½ million was from the 2016-17 budget. So \$10 million.

Ms Freeman: Yes.

Senator STERLE: Cool; fire away.

Ms Freeman: There were a number of election commitments announced as MYEFO, as part of new policy commitments, and they included invasive animal solutions.

I wish to advise the committee that I mistakenly advised that '[t]here were a number of election commitments announced as MYEFO, as part of new policy commitments, and they included invasive animal solutions.'

The correct response should read:

There were a number of election commitments announced in MYEFO, including \$4 million for the Northern Australia Rice Industry and \$2 million for the Commodity Milk Price Index as part of the Dairy Industry Assistance Package. The remaining \$4 million is available for the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions, when the details of that program are finalised.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the transcript of the Budget Estimates hearing and to provide clarification of my response.

Yours sincerely

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