



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

Senator Barry O'Sullivan
Chair
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator O'Sullivan

I refer to answers given by a departmental official, Assistant Secretary Mr Richard McLoughlin, at the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Additional Estimates hearing on Friday 26 May 2017.

In answer to a question from Senator Ian MacDonald, as detailed on page 26 of the Hansard, Mr McLoughlin responded that the Queensland government had signed a Project Agreement for funding of water infrastructure feasibility studies in May 2017. This answer was incorrect.

In the third sentence of the response from Mr McLoughlin at the top of page 26, the response should correctly read as follows: "We completed those discussions and on 11 May last year the Queensland government signed the project agreement for the final feasibility components".

The Queensland government however did sign the National Partnership Agreement on water infrastructure funding, the other component of the National Water Infrastructure Fund, in May 2017 after completing discussions on this funding late last year.

Mr McLoughlin apologises for this error in his answer.

Yours sincerely

Paul Morris
First Assistant Secretary
Water Division
06 June 2017