



**Australian Government**

**Department of Transport and Regional Services**

*File Reference:*

Senator the Hon Bill Heffernan  
Chair  
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee  
Department of the Senate  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Heffernan

I write regarding two responses given by witnesses from the AusLink Division of this Department at the recent hearings on Monday 30 October 2006.

The Hansard proof of the Committee's hearings indicates incorrect information has been provided by the Division. In response to a question from Senator O'Brien on Western Australian rail funding (Monday 30 October 2006, page 20, last four lines) Mr Wolfe indicates that Western Australian projects total \$64.6 million. Correct information is that funding for rail projects in Western Australia is \$39.6 million. A project at Acacia Ridge in Queensland is to receive \$25 million (for a total of \$64.6 million).

Later in the hearings (page 25, lower quarter) I advised the Committee that applications seeking funding under the Strategic Regional Programme were required to have been received by 1 May 2006 in order to receive consideration. For completeness, I should add that, in order that no application was disadvantaged by circumstances outside the control of the applicant, a few were deemed to have been received by 1 May only where applicants could demonstrate that a genuine effort had been made to ensure that the application would be received by the due time.

I apologise for our lack of attention to detail on these matters.

Yours sincerely

Leslie Riggs  
Executive Director  
AusLink

16 November 2006

