



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Local Government**

File Reference: 08/6100

Senator Glenn Sterle
Chair Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport
Suite SG-62
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Sterle

Subject: Budget Estimates October 2008

I write regarding statements made at the Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings held on 21 October 2008.

At the time of the hearings information was unintentionally given that may be ambiguous. The excerpts appear in the Hansard as follows:

Date: Tuesday, 21 October 2008
Page: 68, lines 7-8,

In response to a question from Senator Williams regarding noise insulation, I stated:

Senator Williams – ‘I will fill in for Senator Heffernan. There was a further question on notice from 28 May suggesting that the cost of insulating all public buildings in the same noise contour as Fort Street High School in Sydney is not known. Can you confirm that nobody in your department knows what it would cost to install noise insulation in public buildings within the noise contour?’

Mr Doherty - ‘The insulation programs have relied upon defining the eligible contour, relying on the property owners to come forward and establish their eligibility, and then proceeding with the consideration and costing of insulation for eligible buildings.’

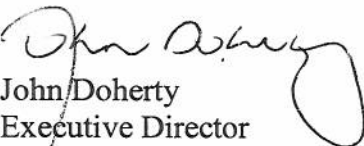
A similar reference was made in my response to Senator Williams’ question: Senator Williams – ‘Has there been a certain amount of money budgeted this year for the insulation of buildings in such contours?’

Please be advised that:

The insulation programs relied upon defining the eligibility contour being identified and then all eligible public building owners and residents being identified and approached with an offer for insulation consistent with the program parameters. Where the owners expressed interest in insulation, further work was then initiated to identify the options and costings for the particular buildings.'

I apologise for the inaccuracy and trust this will remove any ambiguity.

Yours sincerely


John Doherty
Executive Director
Aviation and Airports
13 Nov 2008

**DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CORRECTIONS TO HANSARD TRANSCRIPT - Tuesday 21 October 2008**

Witness Name	Page No.	Line No.	Hansard Transcript Statement	Correction Required is Highlighted
Mr Doherty	67/68	7-8	<p>Senator WILLIAMS—I will fill in for Senator Heffernan. There was a further question on notice from 28 May suggesting that the cost of insulating all public buildings in the same noise contour as Fort Street High RRA&T 68 Senate Tuesday, 21 October 2008 RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT School in Sydney is not known. Can you confirm that nobody in your department knows what it would cost to install noise insulation in public buildings within the noise contour?</p> <p>Mr Doherty—Ms Ellis may be able to add to my answer. But, yes, we would certainly not have that information generally. The exercise of insulating buildings against aircraft noise depends very much on the particular building and the work required. We have found that it varies greatly between buildings, and I am not sure that we would even have the information on the number and design of buildings in a particular contour. The insulation programs have relied upon defining the eligible contour, relying on the property owners to come forward and establish their eligibility, and then proceeding with the consideration and costing of insulation for eligible buildings.</p>	<p>A similar reference was made in my response to Senator Williams' question:</p> <p>Senator Williams – ‘Has there been a certain amount of money budgeted this year for the insulation of buildings in such contours?’</p> <p>Please be advised that:</p> <p>‘The insulation programs relied upon defining the eligibility contour being identified and then all eligible public building owners are residents being identified and approachable with an offer for insulation consistent with the program parameters. Where the owners expressed interest in insulation, further work was then initiated to identify the options and coatings for the particular buildings.’</p>