



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

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

Dear Senator Heffernan

I have reviewed the Proof Committee Hansard of the Additional Estimates hearing conducted by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on Tuesday 9 February 2016 and I wish to make a correction.

The correction relates to my response to a question from Senator Rice. The relevant dialogue is on page 111 of the Proof Committee Hansard:

**Mr Thompson:** I would like to I just add something to an earlier question, and it might shed some light on this. You asked earlier what the income of Forest and Wood products Australia. In 2015-16 they had an income of \$9 million, and \$5.2 million from industry levy contributions with Commonwealth matching contributions of 3.5 million. The reason why the matching contributions are lower than the industry ones is that the industry makes voluntary contributions.

The correct response clarifies the discrepancy between the industry and government-matched contributions to Forest and Wood Products Australia and replaces the fourth sentence (highlighted):

**Mr Thompson:** I would like to I just add something to an earlier question, and it might shed some light on this. You asked earlier what the income of Forest and Wood products Australia. In 2015-16 they had an income of \$9 million, and \$5.2 million from industry levy contributions with Commonwealth matching contributions of 3.5 million. The reason why the matching contributions are lower than the industry ones is that matching funding is only available for eligible research, development and extension activities. Forest and Wood Products Australia also supports a number of additional levy funded programs that do not attract matching funding, such as marketing.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the transcript of the Additional Estimates, held on 9 February 2016, and to clarify my response.

Yours sincerely

Ian Thompson  
First Assistant Secretary  
Sustainable Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Division  
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