



SENATOR PETER WHISH-WILSON
Australian Greens Senator for Tasmania

17 May 2013

Senator the Hon Bill Heffernan
Chair
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and
Transport References Committee
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee Chair

On Wednesday 15 May 2013 during a hearing of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Reference committee I made the below statement about evidence a witness had given at a previous hearing of the committee on Tuesday 7 May 2013:

In terms of that capacity though, we very clearly had an example last week from the head of the Australian Forest Contractors Association who admitted that he took the money and gave it to his sons, to recapitalise his business essentially.

I have reviewed the Hansard from the hearing of Tuesday 7 May and my interpretation of the nature of the witness's evidence was incorrect. He did not state that *he* took an exit grant and gave it to his sons to recapitalise his business. It appears he used this as a 'hypothetical' example. This was unclear to me at the time.

I wish to apologise to the Committee and to the witness for my incorrect statement.

Yours sincerely

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson