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14 August 2015

Senator Anne Ruston
Chair
Senate Environment & Communications Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator

On reviewing the proof transcript of evidence I gave to the Committee at the public hearing into Landholders' Right to Refuse (Gas and Coal) Bill 2013 in Canberra on Tuesday, 28 July 2015 I have determined that two pieces of information I provided require technical corrections to make them complete and accurate.

Senator Urquhart asked for examples of the work CSIRO does with other government bodies to increase public awareness and understanding of the scientific information about the impacts of coal seam gas and large mining activities (page 32 of the proof transcript).

Senator URQUHART: Can you give us some examples of the sort of stuff that you do?

Prof Barrett: ... We have made submissions to all of the state inquiries that have been conducted.

The correct response is:

Prof Barrett: ... We have made submissions to all state inquiries except the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry.

Senator Sinodinos asked about CSG development in the Surat and Bowen Basins and how that intersects with the Great Artesian Basin (page 34 of the proof transcript).

Senator SINODINOS: Does that intersect with the Great Artesian Basin? Is that right?

Prof Barrett: The Walloon Coal Measures sit underneath the aquifers of the Great Artesian Basin in that region.

The more technically correct response is:

Prof Barrett: The Walloon Coal Measures sit underneath aquifers of the Surat Basin in that region and overlie the Great Artesian Basin.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify these two pieces of evidence.

Yours sincerely

Damian Barrett
Research Director
Energy