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The Secretary
Select Committee on Lending to Primary
Production Customers
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100, Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

Date 5 December 2017

Subject **Response to Submission 110 - Viney**

Dear Mr Palethorpe

We refer to the submission from Debra Viney to the Select Committee on Lending to Primary Production Customers (“**the Committee**”), dated 23 August 2017 and additional supplementary submission (which is undated). We note that these submissions were published on 4 December 2017, two days prior to the scheduled release of the Committee's final report. This late publication of Ms Viney's submissions has not provided Rabobank with adequate time to address Ms Viney's claims and provide a substantive written response for publication.

Following Ms Viney's statements at a Committee hearing in July, we contacted her via phone and requested further details regarding her claims and to assure her that her facility was not in default. Rabobank followed up this phone call with a letter, requesting further details and specific information to assist the Bank with the investigation of the claims made (a copy of the Bank's letter dated 23 August 2017 was provided with Ms Viney's undated supplementary submission). Ms Viney did not respond to this letter or provide any specific information for the bank to investigate.

We confirm Ms Viney's facility is still not in default and has not been in default. Furthermore, in the limited time we have had available to us it has become apparent that the Bank's records of meetings with Ms Viney simply do not match the claims and allegations put forward in her submissions.

We request that the Committee consider publishing this letter ahead of the final report scheduled for release tomorrow.

Yours sincerely

Lara Gray
Head Counsel
Rabobank Australia Limited