



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

Ref: 2016/024010E

Senator Barry O'Sullivan
Chair
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
PO BOX 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT

Dear Senator

Having reviewed the proof Hansard of the Additional Budget Estimates hearing conducted by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on Tuesday 28 February 2017, I wish to make some corrections.

The first correction relates to a response by Ms Michelle Lauder to a question by Senator Rice. The relevant dialogue is on page 78 of the proof Hansard:

Ms Lauder: We are also looking at improved monitoring and reporting, so looking at more outcome based reporting rather than clause by clause, which tends to be more process driven. We are looking at using the internationally agreed Montreal protocol outcomes as part of the reporting process.

Ms Lauder incorrectly refers to the 'Montreal protocol', this should be replaced with 'Montreal Process'.

The second correction relates to a response by Ms Michelle Lauder to a question from Senator Rice. The relevant dialogue is on page 79 of the proof Hansard:

Senator RICE: Would you be looking at considering those sorts of options?

Ms Lauder: Those sorts of things will not be covered in the RFA; they will be covered in the forest management system for Tasmania. My understanding is that they do have some buffer zones, for example, for when the—

Senator RICE: But they are not necessarily required. My understanding is they are guidelines.

Ms Lauder: Yes.

Ms Lauder's last response should read 'No'.

The Tasmanian Forest Practices System requires that, if, under the required planning process, the risk to a threatened species or its habitat is identified as high, management prescriptions — which, for relevant species does include the establishment of 'buffer zones' — are applied and are mandatory.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the transcript of the Additional Budget Estimates hearing.

Yours sincerely

Ian Thompson
First Assistant Secretary
Sustainable Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Division
14 March 2017