

23 February 2016

Senator the Hon. Bill Heffernan  
Chair  
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs  
and Transport Legislation Committee  
PO BOX 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator

Re: Additional Budget Estimates, February 2016

Having reviewed the proof Hansard of the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing conducted by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on Tuesday 9 February 2016, I wish to make the following corrections:

The first correction relates to my response to a question from Senator Whish-Wilson. The relevant dialogue is on page 11 of the proof Hansard. The correction relates to the below dialogue:

**Senator Whish-Wilson:** Can I ask you to clarify, Mr Norton. When you say 'with industry' who do you mean exactly?

**Mr Norton:** With the peak industry councils, so the Cattle Council of Australia, the Sheepmeat Council of Australia and the Goat Industry Council of Australia, around identifying their levy payers. As you know, MLA does not have access to who the levy payers are.

I wish to advise the Committee that I mistakenly advised that MLA consulted with the Goat Industry Council of Australia, instead of the Australian Lot Feeders' Association. The correct response should read:

**Mr Norton:** With the peak industry council, so the Cattle Council of Australia, the Sheepmeat Council of Australia and the Australian Lot Feeders' Association, around identifying their levy payers. As you know, MLA does not have access to who the levy payers are.

The second correction relates to my response to a question from the Chair. The relevant dialogue is on page 13 of the proof Hansard. The correction relates to the below dialogue:

**Chair:** Is the selection committee part of the board?

**Mr Norton:** No, it is not. In the 2014 AGM, MLA directors were reduced from three to two. MLA directors that sit on the selection committee have no voting

rights. So the selection committee is made up of three grassfed, two feedlot and two from the Sheepmeat Council.

I wish to advise the Committee that I mistakenly advised that the MLA Selection Committee has two members from the Sheepmeat Council, rather, it has two members of the sheepmeat industry. The correct response should read:

**Mr Norton:** No, it is not. In the 2014 AGM, MLA directors were reduced from three to two. MLA directors that sit on the selection committee have no voting rights. So the selection committee is made up of three grassfed, two feedlot and two members from the sheepmeat industry.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the transcript of the hearing and to provide clarification of my response.

Yours sincerely

Richard Norton  
Managing Director