



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources

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 Heffernan

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 20 October 2015, I wish to make the following correction:

The correction relates to my response to a question from Senator Cameron. The relevant dialogue is on page 59 of the proof Hansard:

Mr Padovan: It is \$2.5 billion over 10, or \$250 million per year. That figure is not inconsistent with the sorts of uptake we were seeing with some of the schemes. In the case that I read out earlier with the Farm Finance scheme we have \$170 million out of \$290 million in funds taken up in that program. It is an 'up to' figure. I think as one of the senators pointed out earlier, it allows for that rate of uptake. If conditions improve, if seasonal...

The correct response should read:

Mr Padovan: It is \$2.5 billion over 10, or \$250 million per year. That figure is not inconsistent with the sorts of uptake we were seeing with some of the schemes. In the case that I read out earlier with the Farm Finance scheme we have **around** \$170 million out of **approximately** \$290 million in funds taken up in that program. It is an 'up to' figure. I think as one of the senators pointed out earlier, it allows for that rate of uptake. If conditions improve, if seasonal...

Thank you for the opportunity to review the transcript of the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing held on Tuesday 20 October 2015 and to provide clarification to my response.

Yours sincerely

Nico Padovan
First Assistant Secretary
Farm Support Division

17 Nov 2015