



INT18/194467

26 NOV 2018

The Hon Robert Brown MLC
NSW Legislative Council Portfolio Committee No.5 – Industry and Transport
Inquiry into Sustainability of the Dairy Industry in NSW
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Mr Brown

Sustainability of the Dairy Industry in NSW

I refer to your email of 21 November 2018 concerning the post-hearing responses required for the Portfolio Committee No.5 – Industry and Transport on the Sustainability of the Dairy Industry in NSW (the Committee).

The corrected transcript and answers to questions on notice taken during the hearing are enclosed.

The dairy industry is important to the State of NSW through its contribution to gross domestic product, and also to the many dairy families and businesses across the State.

The Department of Primary Industries is active in research and development to find reductions in input costs for dairy farming operations; improve pasture, water, feed and production efficiencies; ensure market access for dairy products; and investigate new processing methods for milk and opportunities to value-add.

I would like to correct some minor inaccuracies in values given during the Department's evidence before the Committee.

- Page 2 and 6 of transcript – my evidence stated there were 660 dairy farms in NSW but this is the 2016/17 figure. The 2017/18 figure is 626 dairy farms.
- Page 4 of the transcript – Mr Russell's evidence included that imputed labour was approximately \$50,000 per family labour unit. The figure is in fact closer to \$72,000.

Thank you for the opportunity to write to you on this important issue. Should you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me on 6391 3100.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Hansen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Hansen

Director General, Department of Primary Industries