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Ms Sue Higginson MLC
Chair
Legislative Council Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment
Parliament House
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email: budgetestimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

21 March 2024

Dear Ms Higginson

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify the evidence I provided to Portfolio Committee No. 7 Planning and Environment during the Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Heritage Budget Estimates hearing on 7 March 2023.

At the hearing you asked me a question about the composition of mulch being assessed as part of the NSW Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) investigation into asbestos contaminated mulch. I advised the following: "The mulch should be woodchips. It's chipped vegetative material. So it's what you'd see in a garden. If you go across to Hyde Park, they're pieces typically larger than seven to 10 millimetres. So they're chipped pieces of material that people typically use for decorative gardening" (page 59 of the uncorrected transcript).

I wish to clarify my evidence to confirm that the pieces of chipped vegetative material are typically larger than 10 to 70 millimetres.

If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

STEVE BEAMAN PSM
Executive Director, Regulatory Practice and Services
NSW Environment Protection Authority