



Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

Ref CTS 16063/12

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Mr Ian Rickuss MP
Chair
Agriculture, Resources and Environment Committee
Parliament House
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Dear Mr Rickuss *lan*

On 12 October 2012, I attended Estimates Hearings by your Committee responding to questions on matters of budget for the portfolio of Environment and Heritage Protection.

I would like to take this opportunity to clarify some of the information provided during that hearing to ensure a complete and accurate record.

During questioning, I was asked a question in relation to the wild river declarations in Queensland, and specifically to confirm if I had endorsed or provided support for any proposal to amend any of the current wild river declarations in Queensland (I refer to page 81 of Hansard).

The Hansard record notes that in response to a question as to whether I was aware of any amendments to wild river declarations on Cape York, I indicated that I was aware of minor technical amendments to wild rivers in the Lake Eyre Basin, for which Minister Cripps as responsible Minister would be writing to inform me about.

To ensure there is no inadvertent misleading of the Committee, I wish to correct the record and advise that the letter to which I referred had already been received and responded to at the time of the Committee hearing.

I apologise for not correcting the record sooner, but I felt it was important to ensure that the Committee is accurately informed of the status of this issue at the time of the Committee's hearing.

I trust this information has been of assistance to you and should you have further enquiries, please contact my Chief of Staff, Mr Troy Collings on 3239 0844.

Yours sincerely

ANDREW POWELL MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

