



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources**

Louise Lilley
Macroeconomic Modelling and Policy Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

Via email: statsdetermination@treasury.gov.au

Dear Ms Lilley

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the proposal to remake the *Statistics Determination 1983* (the Determination).

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (the department) works closely with the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) on a number of data-centric initiatives. This sees both agencies share and use data to undertake research and analysis and provide advice to inform decision makers on issues affecting Australia's agriculture, fisheries, forestry and water industries.

It is noted that the proposed remake of the Determination will bring it in line with contemporary drafting practices and provide for a more flexible scheme under which the ABS can release business information. We welcome and strongly support greater sharing of the data that the government holds in an appropriate manner. We note that the remake maintains safeguards for matters such as privacy.

The department supports the remake of the Determination and looks forward to its implementation. The relevant contact on this matter in the department is Tom Georgilas, Director, Data Policy (tom.georgilas@agriculture.gov.au; 02 6272 3637).

Thank you again for the opportunity to make a submission on this important initiative.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Steve Hatfield-Dodds', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steve Hatfield-Dodds
Executive Director
Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource
Economics and Sciences

01 February 2018