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[REDACTED]
Australian Energy Regulator

By email - [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Questions regarding Aggregate Measures of Australian Corporate Bond Spreads and Yields (Statistical Table F3)

Thank you for your letter dated 19 September 2017 requesting information and assistance with respect to Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) data that is used by the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) in its regulatory determinations.

In relation to the three items raised in your letter:

1. Corrections to published F3 data made on or around 5 June 2017

The changes made to Statistical Table F3 on 5 June 2017 reflected improvements in the methodology used by the RBA to convert bonds issued in US dollars into Australian dollar-equivalent terms.

The changes are reflected in the historical data as far back as the series could be reliably updated, which is to September 2014.

The revised yields were on average 6 basis points (i.e. 0.06 %) lower than the originally published data, with the difference ranging between 2 and 13 basis points.

2. Prior revisions to published F3 data

The RBA also made changes to Statistical Table F3 in October 2015 (as outlined on the RBA's website, here: <https://www.rba.gov.au/statistics/tables/changes-to-tables.html>) and these changes are still in place.

3. Access to published RBA F3 Table data

We will separately provide you with the historical releases of Statistical Table F3 that you requested.

Specifically, we will provide you with a complete series of the published Microsoft Excel Tables for each calendar month since the current version of the F3 series was first published.

We note that Statistical Table F3 has been constructed by the RBA for addressing specific research topics. The data are not accorded any special status by the RBA and are provided as a convenience for the public.

The RBA does not provide comments or recommendations on the appropriateness of the use of the data for any particular purpose.

We also note that the data may be subject to further revisions, such as in the event of further improvements to the RBA's methodology and/or changes to the available data.

Yours sincerely



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