

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

The committee met on Tuesday, 27 May 2014 from 9.04 am to 5.45 pm.

The committee called the department and agencies of the Infrastructure and Regional Development Portfolio, including the National Capital Authority, the National Transport Commission, and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

Among other issues, the following issues were discussed:

- the development of Badgerys Creek Airport, including environmental issues, proposed community consultation, and potential curfews
- Sydney Airport and proposals for a third runway
- the potential impact on regional Australia of the reduction of Financial Assistance Grants
- the implementation of the Stronger Regions Program
- services to Norfolk Island
- the role of the National Capital Authority
- the delay to the introduction of paid parking in the Parliamentary Triangle
- current research activities being undertaken by the Department, particularly in Northern Australia
- the operation of the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
- Operation Sovereign Borders, including the use of life rafts and issues of maritime safety
- the role of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority in the search for missing Malaysian Airlines flight MH370.