HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE, WATER, ENVIRONMENT AND THE ARTS

Question No. 1

The Chair, Ms Jennie George MP, asked the following question at the hearing on 18 September 2008

In your submission you talk about the one road in, and I know that area of the world fairly well, so what emergency plans do you have in the event of the need to evacuate with one road only in and out?

The answer to the honourable member's question is as follows:

Under the Jervis Bay Territory Disaster Recovery Plan, the Australian Federal Police is the Local Emergency Operations Controller and responsible for deciding when to evacuate in the event of a disaster.

The Plan outlines alternative evacuation options for the Territory which would be used if the road was cut, including:

- Water access from:
 - HMAS Creswell,
 - Murrays Beach,
 - Summercloud Bay, and
 - the Sussex Inlet Leases.
- Air access from the:
 - Jervis Bay Airfield,
 - Lower Sports Ground on HMAS Creswell,
 - Quarter Deck on HMAS Creswell, and
 - Jervis Bay School Oval.

The Royal Australian Navy is able to offer Defence Force personnel, equipment and facilities to perform emergency tasks under the *Defence Force Assistance to the Civil Community* policy should residents need to be evacuated in the event of a disaster.