



14 July 2021

Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham  
Minister for Finance  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Via email: [financeminister@finance.gov.au](mailto:financeminister@finance.gov.au)

CC: [DLO-Finance@finance.gov.au](mailto:DLO-Finance@finance.gov.au)

Dear Minister,

**Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Amendment (Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications Measures No. 2) Regulations 2021 [F2021L00409]**

Thank you for your response of 9 July 2021 to the Senate Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Delegated Legislation in relation to the above instrument. The committee considered your response at its private meeting on Wednesday, 14 July 2021 and has resolved to seek your further advice about the issues outlined below.

***Parliamentary oversight***

Thank you for your advice that grant agreements executed under the Tourism Aviation Network Support (TANS) program provide for a total funding amount of \$210,740,137.70 (GST inclusive) over 2020-21 and 2021-22.

The committee acknowledges your advice that the government did not disclose the funding commitment to the TANS program when the instrument was introduced, or subsequently in the Budget papers, pending the outcome of the grant process and subsequent commercial negotiation of program costs with airlines.

**In light of the fact that the funding amount is now available, and noting the importance of explanatory materials as a point of access to understanding the law for parliamentarians, courts and members of the public, the committee requests that the explanatory statement to the instrument be amended to include this information.**

The committee's expectation is to receive a response in time for it to consider and report on the instrument while it is still subject to disallowance. If the committee has not concluded its consideration of an instrument before the expiry of the 15th sitting day after the instrument has been tabled in the Senate, the committee may give notice of a motion to disallow the instrument as a precautionary measure to allow additional time for the committee to consider information received.

Noting this, and to facilitate the committee's consideration of the matters above, the committee would appreciate your response by **28 July 2021**.

Finally, please note that, in the interests of transparency this correspondence and your response will be published on the committee's website.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the committee's secretariat on (02) 6277 3066, or by email to [sdlc.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:sdlc.sen@aph.gov.au).

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Yours sincerely,

**Senator the Hon Concetta Fierravanti-Wells**

**Chair**

**Senate Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Delegated Legislation**