

Question on notice no. 121

Portfolio question number: 444

2017-18 Supplementary budget estimates

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure and Regional Development Portfolio

Senator Nick Xenophon: asked the Civil Aviation Safety Authority on 27 October 2017—

Senator XENOPHON: I'll put this in general terms. There's an issue of process that I'm concerned about. The names of the individuals aren't so key to this. Who was authorised to see the draft report, as to the processes involved for that? Can you take that on notice? **Mr Carmody:** Certainly. **Senator XENOPHON:** Were there any individuals who weren't authorised to see the report who did see the report? **Mr Carmody:** I'll take both of those on notice. The draft report is provided to us to provide comment on, and you would expect my inspectorate those who are involved in the matter to be reviewing that report and providing comment.

Answer —

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau's (ATSB) draft report for the reopened investigation into 'Ditching of Israel Aircraft Westwind 1124A aircraft, VH-NGA, 5 km SW of Norfolk Island Airport on 18 November 2009' (AO-2009-072) was distributed in accordance with the actions contemplated by sections 9 and 10 of the Memorandum of Understanding between the ATSB and CASA.

CASA personnel to whom copies of the draft report were provided were authorised to review the draft report in accordance with Section 26 (4) of the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003, which permits disclosure and copying of draft reports necessary for the purpose of (a) preparing submissions on the draft report; or (b) taking steps to remedy safety issues that are identified in the draft report.