

Rural Affairs and Transport Committee

The Committee met on Thursday 21 October 2010, from 9.00 am until 10.07 pm.

The Committee called the:

- Department and agencies of the Infrastructure and Transport portfolio, including Infrastructure Australia, Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd, Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Office of Transport Security, Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Airservices Australia and Australian Transport Safety Authority

Among other issues, the main issues discussed were matters relating to:

- Timing of the return of answers to Questions on Notice
- Response by Airservices Australia to Senate Committee Inquiry Report
- Establishment of the Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government
- Role of Infrastructure Australia in the development of the NBN
- Funding contributions from local and state governments, and the Commonwealth, for a range of specific infrastructure projects
- Transfer of Office of Co-ordinator General to the Department of Infrastructure and Transport
- Impact of mud holes on rail traffic on the Sydney-Melbourne rail line
- Commonwealth responsibility for bike safety and National Road Safety Policy
- Status of demurrage, performance indicators for bulk ports and length of ship queue, particularly off Queensland
- High speed rail study and progress with draft terms of reference
- Policy and procedures in relation to ASIC and MSIC cards
- Curfews on airports – particularly in relation to Brisbane
- Approval procedures for flights beyond 12 nautical miles from Australia
- Progress with CASA's Regulatory Reform Programme
- Implementation of Aviation White Paper
- Operation of confidential reporting framework for transport incidents and its comparison to that used in the United States
- Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme