

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

**Infrastructure and Regional Development**

**Question no.:** 186

**Program:** 2.4 Air Transport

**Division/Agency:** Aviation and Airports

**Topic:** Regulatory Requirements under the *Airports Act 1996*

**Proof Hansard Page:** 128-129 (8 February 2016)

**Senator Rice, Janet asked:**

**Senator RICE:** Mr Mrdak, you are making an assessment to say that, yes, there is the need for this extra capacity. My question is whether that assessment of the broader capacity of both airports, including Avalon, will be considered as part of the assessment in terms of the need for a third runway.

**Mr Wilson:** I would have to check in terms of the regulations and the requirements that are in place. As I said, I will take it on notice. But I do not believe that there is a regulatory requirement for Melbourne airport, in the development of its major development plan, to take into account capacity offered by another airport.

**Senator RICE:** Even in the same market?

**Mr Wilson:** Even in the same market. As I said, I will check, but I do not believe—

**Answer:**

There is no requirement under the *Airports Act 1996* (or its associated regulations), for Melbourne Airport to take into account capacity at another airport, such as Avalon Airport, in developing its Major Development Plan for the new runway. Melbourne and Avalon airports are competitors in the aviation marketplace. Furthermore, in accordance with the airport lease, the Melbourne Airport lessee company must continue to develop the airport site having regard to actual and forecast growth for the airport.

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

**Infrastructure and Regional Development**

**Question no.:** 187

**Program:** 2.4 Air Transport

**Division/Agency:** Aviation and Airports

**Topic:** Gold Coast Airport Instrument Landing System (ILS) Major Development Plan

**Proof Hansard Page:** 130-131 (8 February 2016)

**Senator Rhiannon, Lee asked:**

**Senator RHIANNON:** To finish up with the Gold Coast airport: I understand there is a minister's approval document for Gold Coast airport's ILS draft master development plan. Can you take this on notice and release this document to the committee.

**Mr Mrdak:** Yes, certainly. It will be published shortly. As one of the conditions of any major development plan approval, the airport publishes the major development plan and the final approval.

...

**Senator RHIANNON:** Can you take it on notice and release this immediately—as I think you are aware, there are local disputes about this—so that the public at least have some knowledge about what they are confronting.

**Mr Mrdak:** The public was extensively consulted on the draft major development plan, which was then provided to government and which included a response to the public consultation. But I will take on notice the availability of the final MDP earlier.

**Senator RHIANNON:** So you will give consideration to releasing it—not using the process to expand the time, but to look at releasing it immediately?

**Mr Mrdak:** That will be a matter for the airport, but we will see what can be done.

**Answer:**

The then Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP, approved the Gold Coast Airport Instrument Landing System (ILS) Major Development Plan (MDP) on 19 January 2016. The final MDP and ministerial approval letter are publicly available on the airport's website:

<http://goldcoastairport.com.au/regulatory/instrument-landing-system-development-plan/>.

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

**Infrastructure and Regional Development**

**Question no.:** 188

**Program:** 2.4 Air Transport

**Division/Agency:** Aviation and Airports

**Topic: Management of Emissions in ICAO**

**Proof Hansard Page:** 131 (8 February 2016)

**Senator Sterle, Glenn asked:**

**Senator STERLE:**

**Mr Mrdak:** I believe an officer is currently in Montreal, as we speak, in discussions around the issue.

**Senator STERLE:** Very good. Can the department list the meetings that have occurred on this issue since September 2013.

**Mr Mrdak:** Yes, we will provide that.

**Senator STERLE:** What department officials have been attending such meetings since September 2013?

**Mr Mrdak:** We will provide that.

**Senator STERLE:** Which meetings and what were the topics?

**Mr Mrdak:** There is a committee called the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection of the ICAO. That is their primary policy development body, and it feeds into the general assembly of ICAO, which will be held later this year. We will get you the details of that.

**Senator STERLE:** What was the last such meeting attended by a department official?

**Mr Mrdak:** It is this week.

**Senator STERLE:** Are there any future meetings scheduled for attendance by a departmental official?

**Mr Mrdak:** We will check. I think that the next time ICAO will look at these issues will be the general assembly in late September.

**Mr Wilson:** We will check.

**Senator STERLE:** Since 2013 how many briefing notes have been provided to the minister specifically on emissions in the aviation sector?

**Mr Mrdak:** I had better take that on notice.

**Answer:**

Please see [Attachment A](#) for details of meetings.

Since September 2013 two briefing notes have been provided to the Minister on emissions in the aviation sector.

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)	Purpose	Dates	Participant/s
<b>Meetings Attended since 1 September 2013</b>			
ICAO Committee on Aviation Environment Protection (CAEP)	Committee on Aviation Environment Protection (CAEP) is a committee of the ICAO Council that manages technical issues related to aircraft noise and all gaseous emissions from aircraft. Australia is one of 21 members and is part of the steering committee. Discussions including the development of new standards for aircraft engines for CO2 emissions and non-volatile particulate matter, operational opportunities to reduce aircraft noise and greenhouse gas emissions as well as a potential global market-based measure (MBM) scheme.	1-12 February 2016	One departmental officer
ICAO CAEP Steering Group	Subset of CAEP tasked with reviewing and guiding the technical work on aviation environmental matters including aircraft noise, emissions and a potential global MBM scheme.	3 - 7 November 2013 22-24 January 2014 15-19 September 2014 20-24 July 2015	One departmental officer
ICAO CAEP Global Market-based Measure (MBM) Task Force	This group was established under the direction of CAEP to develop technical procedures for monitoring, reporting and verification of global CO2 emissions from international civil aviation and eligibility requirements for emission units.	4-7 March 2014 20-23 May 2014 22-24 July 2014 17-20 November 2014 24-27 March 2015 16-19 June 2015 27-30 October 2015	Australia is not a member of the Task Force.
ICAO Global Aviation Dialogues (GLADs)	Information seminar on the work being undertaken by ICAO on MBM to address CO2 emissions from international aviation.	23 - 24 April 2015	One departmental officer
ICAO Environmental Advisory Group	The Environmental advisory group was established by the ICAO Council to review and provide input to the design elements and implementation mechanisms for a global MBM scheme.	6 March 2014 13 March 2014 23-24 April 2014 14-15 May 2015 6 June 2014 24-25 September 2014 29-30 October 2014 13 November 2014 21-22 January 2015 4-5 March 2015 26-27 May 2015 14-15 September 2015 7-8 October 2015 12-13 November 2015 20-21 January 2016	One departmental officer attended all meetings as an observer except for 26-27 May 2015.
<b>Future Meetings</b>			
ICAO Global Aviation Dialogues (GLADs)	Information seminar on the work being undertaken by ICAO on MBM to address CO2 emissions from international aviation	29 - 30 March 2016	One departmental officer
ICAO High Level Meeting on Global MBM Scheme	Conference will review draft recommendation on global MBM scheme leading to 39th ICAO Assembly	11 - 13 May 2016	One departmental officer
39th Meeting of the ICAO Assembly	Triennial meeting of all 191 members of ICAO. Will consider a broad range of issues related to the administration of ICAO, safety, security and the environment.	27 September - 7 October 2016	Composition of delegation to be confirmed

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

**Infrastructure and Regional Development**

**Question no.:** 189

**Program:** 2.4 Air Transport

**Division/Agency:** Aviation and Airports

**Topic:** Emissions Reduction Target - Aviation

**Proof Hansard Page:** 131 (8 February 2016)

**Senator Sterle, Glenn asked:**

**Senator STERLE:** Has the department provided any advice to the minister on options for regulating aviation emissions as part of achieving the government's 26 to 28 per cent carbon reduction target?

**Mr Wilson:** I believe we have, but I would have to check.

**Senator STERLE:** If you could. Are you able to share that with the committee?

**Mr Wilson:** Again, I will take that on notice.

**Answer:**

No. While the Department has provided advice to the Minister on managing emissions as part of the work of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) (see 188), the domestic emission reduction target is a matter for the Environment Portfolio.

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016  
**Infrastructure and Regional Development**

**Question no.:** 190

**Program:** n/a

**Division/Agency:** Aviation and Airports

**Topic:** Northern Australia Transport Study

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Sterle, Glenn asked:**

1. I refer to the meeting of the Northern Australia Transport Study Group that first met in Townsville on January 21, 2016.
2. What is the Department's role in the Northern Australia Transport Study?
3. Who is participating?
4. Who accompanied Minister Truss from the Department?
5. What issues were canvassed in the maritime discussion?
6. What decisions or conclusions about maritime policy were reached?
7. What happens now in maritime?
8. Which industry stakeholders were invited to the maritime discussion?
9. Were the following Northern Australia shipping stakeholders invited?
  - a. Sea Swift
  - b. Toll Marine Logistics
  - c. Pacific Marine Group
  - d. North Star Cruises
  - e. The Navy
10. Who decided which maritime stakeholders were to be invited?
11. What issues were canvassed in the aviation discussion?
12. What decisions or conclusions about aviation policy were reached?
13. What happens now in aviation?
14. Which industry stakeholders were invited to the aviation discussion?

**Answer:**

1. N/A.
2. Support the Minister in facilitating meetings of the business stakeholder group.
3. Representatives from across the aviation, logistics and maritime industries as well as members of the broader business community.
4. Mr John Doherty, Executive Director, Aviation and Airports.  
Mr Michael Sutton, A/g Executive Director, Surface Transport Policy.  
Mr Ross Adams, A/g Director, Northern Australia Transport Study, Aviation and Airports.
5. The business stakeholder group discussed:
  - a. factors influencing current and projected demand for cargo and cruise services;
  - b. opportunities for growth, particularly in the cruise sector; and
  - c. factors affecting the delivery of maritime services in northern Australia.

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

**Infrastructure and Regional Development**

6. No decisions were taken.
7. The next meeting of the business stakeholder group will be held in the coming months.
8. All members of the business stakeholder group participated in the discussions on maritime.
9.
  - a. No.
  - b. No.
  - c. No.
  - d. No.
  - e. No.
10. Membership of the business stakeholder group was agreed by the then Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP.
11. The business stakeholder group discussed:
  - a. factors influencing current and projected demand for passenger and freight services;
  - b. opportunities for growth, particularly in the freight sector; and
  - c. factors affecting the delivery of air services in northern Australia.
12. No decisions were taken.
13. The next meeting of the business stakeholder group will be held in the coming months.
14. All members of the business stakeholder group participated in the discussions on aviation.

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

**Infrastructure and Regional Development**

**Question no.:** 191

**Program:** 2.4 Air Transport

**Division/Agency:** Aviation and Airports

**Topic:** Proposed Third Runway at Melbourne Airport

**Proof Hansard Page:** 29 (8 February 2016)

**Senator Rice, Janet asked:**

**Senator RICE:** I am going to ask in general about the Melbourne Airport third runway proposal—how that is rolling out and whether to your knowledge there is going to be a new environmental impact statement done for that aspect.

**Mr Mrdak:** That needs to be dealt with under our Aviation and Airports group. We are assisting at this stage with the land acquisition for the third runway. There will need to be, as with any such project, a major development plan put together. I do not have the details on that with me. Perhaps I can come back to you on notice or perhaps we can deal with it later in the day. The Aviation and Airports team who look after that project are scheduled at five o'clock.

**Answer:**

In its 2013 Master Plan the airport proposed a new parallel east-west runway to meet predicted passenger growth. Additional east-west and north-south runways have been a feature of Melbourne Airport's master planning since the early 1990s.

The Department of the Environment, which has responsibility for the assessment of potential environmental impacts on Commonwealth land under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), is working with the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development to consider accreditation of the Major Development Plan assessment process under the *Airports Act 1996*, which has similar requirements to an EIS. This includes extensive public consultation around noise and environmental impacts of a proposal as well as any other impacts.