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Ms Jeanette Radcliffe
Committee Secretary
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Reference Committee
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Dear Ms Radcliffe

I refer to your letter dated 6 July 2010 requesting submission on the Airports Amendment Bill 2010.

The principles as set in the draft bill are supported. The proposed amendments relating to the information to be included in the future into the preparation of masterplans for the airports will aid this Department in its endeavours to integrate the developments at the airports in the Northern Territory with the development happening around the airports. The inclusion of specific reference to "*consistency with planning schemes in force under a law of the state*" is also supported.

The inclusion of an environmental strategy into a masterplan that provide detailed information is supported and welcomed.

The sections dealing with "*incompatible developments*" clarifies the uses not allowed at airports but also allow the necessary discretions for specific airports to apply and prove special merit and circumstances for incompatible developments to occur.

It is suggested that the bill include generic reference to Territory to cover for the Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory's planning laws.

Yours sincerely



DAVID RITCHIE

30 July 2010