

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Committee Inquiries Question on Notice

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

**Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill
2023**

IQ23-000105

Division/Agency: DIV - Partnerships and Projects

Hansard Reference: Written (21 April 2023)

Topic: NAIF - funding of road projects in Northern Australia

Senator Perin Davey asked:

- Is it the intention of the NAIF to fund road projects that will ensure the liveability and business viability of communities in northern Australia?
- If so, will upgrades to highways in the Fitzroy River area / Kimberley region North Western Australia be undertaken to provide an all-weather road access for livestock and community traffic, especially since the extensive recent flooding in the region?
- Will repairs and upgrades to a Fitzroy River bridge crossing be met through these additional funds to ensure a continuous road access from the Northern Territory to north west Australian ports?
- What support is likely to be provided through this fund facility to Queensland LGAs of Doomadgee and Burketown for upgrades to essential road traffic routes in the Burke Shire, Doomadgee, Hells Gate etc areas, where up to a dozen roads have been closed due dangerous road conditions.
- How will remote indigenous communities in northern Western Australia be assisted to ensure they have transport access to coastal towns, medical support and to other communities following floods?

Answer

The Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility is governed by the *Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016* and the *Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Investment Mandate Direction 2021* (Investment Mandate).

Projects must satisfy NAIF's Investment Mandate and are individually assessed by the NAIF Board.