



P.O. Box 49,
Whitemark
Flinders Island
TASMANIA 7255
20th August 2002

Committee Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee
on Transport and Regional Services
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

Regarding the Airline Service to Flinders Island, TAS.

On Flinders Island we have an asset whose potential has not, and will not develop by using 9 seater Light Aircraft exclusively.

Reasons being: -

- 1) Many people will not travel on Light Aircraft. -
- My own family and friends refuse to come here for this reason, irrational though it may seem.
- 2) It is too expensive to travel here (e.g. \$340 return Melbourne / Flinders Is. - distance, 201 air miles. -
(- \$253 return Melbourne / Hobart - a far greater distance - with meals, child discount and comfort). -
- 3) No discount fares for children. They have to pay full adult rates, therefore a "Family Holiday, on Flinders Island for the average family is out of the question!

- 4) No allowance for "Frequent Flyer" points to be used.
- 5) At peak periods, when flights are full, often some passenger's luggage has to come on a later flight, often the following day. Too bad if the visitor has travel bookings on the same day for Interstate or Overseas flights.

What is required is a larger Turbo Prop Aircraft of around 30 seat capacity, flying to Launceston or Hobart VIA FLINDERS ISLAND once or twice a week.

Benefits that would flow on would be:

- 1) More people travelling to and from the Island -
- Those people worried about flying in the 9 seaters would now visit.
- 2) Cheaper fares, including discounts for children.
- 3) No luggage problems as with the smaller 9 seaters.
- 4) No stop-over at Traralgon.
- 5) Possibly "Frequent Flyer" points being accepted.
- 6) And most importantly, this Aircraft would provide the incentive for this Island to develop!! This unique Tourist area with its beaches, Mountains and abundant Flora and Fauna is close to Australia's two largest cities, where a ready market is in the offering.

Considering the Millions of Dollars which has been

invested recently to increase passenger numbers across Bass Strait to Tasmania. what I am suggesting for improvement for Flinders Island, which will benefit this community and Tasmania, is very modest by comparison.

I trust this suggestion is viewed favorably by the Committee Memberships.

Your sincerely,

Wanda Humphries.