

## Senate Standing Committee on Economics

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

19 – 20 October 2011

Question No: SBT 827

Topic: Melbourne Airport access conditions

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Senator Cameron asked:

Senator CAMERON: Yes. Just for my sake, I want to put these on notice so we do not get caught up in this all afternoon. There are other senators seeking the call. In relation to Melbourne Airport, the ACCC says access conditions are 'unreasonable'—this is off-airport operators. The Productivity Commission says 'information about terms and conditions of access' is not transparent. I would like some analysis of why you believe it is not transparent and whether you do believe access conditions are unreasonable. In relation to kerbside drop-offs and pick-ups, the ACCC says airports across the country may restrict kerbside drop-offs and pick-ups to force travellers into short-term car parks. The Productivity Commission says reducing kerbside drop-off and pick-up facilities would create unwanted congestion. Again, I would like some analysis in relation to the ACCC position and how you have come to the conclusion that congestion is the issue and it is not an unnecessary restriction. So they are the questions. You can make the call, but my view is that none of them would impede the ongoing inquiry that you are undertaking. In fact, turning your mind to these issues might help you.

Mr Banks: Thank you for allowing us to make the call, Senator. If we possibly can answer some or all of those questions, we will, but otherwise they will be embedded in the final report. We would be happy also to get back to you directly at that point, when the final report is released.

Senator CAMERON: Thank you.

Answer:

These matters are all 'live' issues in the finalisation of the Commission's final report. Indeed, they bear directly on matters that were subject to draft recommendations in the draft report. The final report will be provided to the Government in mid-December 2011.