Question No. 86

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 25 May 2006:

In relation to the SmartGate terminals;

(a) How many SmartGate terminals will there be in total?

(b) What is the level of progression with the SmartGate rollout?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

(a) The number of SmartGates at each airport will be dependent on the target airport, passenger volumes and the percentage of ePassport holders being facilitated at that airport. Customs is currently undertaking assessments and modelling activities at the first three target airports (Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney).

(b) The design for SmartGate Series 1 is nearing completion and will be followed by build and testing stages. Customs is on track to rollout SmartGate Series 1 to the first target airport by 28 February 2007. Two further airports will be rolled out in 2007. Subsequent rollouts to other major airports will be conducted on a progressive basis, the order of which will be determined after the initial rollout in 2007.