

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October/November 2005

Transport and Regional Services

Question no: AAA 01

Division/Agency: Aviation and Airports, DOTARS

Topic: Essendon Airport development

Hansard page: 91 (31/10/05)

Senator O'Brien asked:

I understand that significant traffic delays have resulted in the vicinity of Essendon Airport as a result of direct factory outlets opening on the airport site. Can you tell me when the Department was approached to approve this development?

Can you get us the date of lodgement?

Answer:

The draft Major Development Plan (MDP) was received by the Minister on 23 August 2004. Under sub-section 94(6) of the *Airports Act 1996* the Minister must approve, or refuse to approve, a Draft MDP within 90 days. However, where advice is to be sought from the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, pursuant to sub-section 94(6A) of the *Airports Act 1996*, the 90-day period commences from the date on which that advice is received.

The Department of Transport and Regional Services received advice in relation to the draft MDP from the Minister for the Environment and Heritage on 4 November 2004.

The draft MDP was approved on 16 December 2004.

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October/November 2005

Transport and Regional Services

Question no: AAA 02

Division/Agency: Aviation and Airports, DOTARS

Topic: Essendon Airport development

Hansard page: 92 (31/10/05)

Senator O'Brien asked:

What concerns were raised by Local and State Governments in relation to road access and support infrastructure?

Answer:

The following summarises the concerns that were raised by Local and State Governments with regard to road access and support infrastructure:

City of Darebin

- That public transport access is inadequate.

City of Moonee Valley

- That traffic management measures are required to minimise impact on surrounding roads, including First Avenue, Dublin Avenue, Balmoral Avenue, Holyrood Avenue, and Woodland Street;
- That there is a potential safety issue with signage along the Tullamarine Freeway;
- That the car parking facilities are inadequate; and
- That public transport access is inadequate.

Victorian Department of Sustainability

- That the site is remote from public transport;
- That the site is not well connected to the surrounding area;
- That the impact on surrounding roads have not been fully assessed;
- That motorists could be distracted by signage along the Tullamarine Freeway; and
- That an error exists in the calculation of car parking spaces for the development.

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October/November 2005

Transport and Regional Services

Question no: AAA 03

Division/Agency: Aviation and Airports

Topic: Deep Vein Thrombosis Study

Hansard page: 94 (31/10/05)

Senator O'Brien asked:

Senator O'BRIEN—I take it from your earlier answers that the Department did not discuss with the Department of Health and Ageing the need for a second phase of the study?

Mr Bogiatzis—We made no commitment for a second phase.

Senator O'BRIEN—Did you discuss it?

Mr Bogiatzis—I am not aware of any discussion of further studies. The Department committed to undertake this study. I am not aware of it as a first stage study—I am aware of it as a complete study—and the publication completed the Department's engagement on that.

Senator O'BRIEN—Can you check that and let us know.

Answer:

At the time of negotiations with the then Department of Health and Aged Care (now Health and Ageing), the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS) committed to funding phase one of the study only, but was aware of the possibility for further study. DOTARS' involvement in the study was finalised with the publication of the study's outcomes in the British Medical Journal in 2003.

The Department of Health and Ageing have considered the need for a phase two study. No decision has been taken to proceed at this time.