

14 July 2008

Hon Anthony Albanese  
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development and Local Government  
GPO BOX 594  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Minister,

**RE: Development of a National Aviation Policy Statement**

The NSW Business Chamber supports the development of a National Aviation Policy Statement as aviation sector is imperative for the Australian economic and social development.

The NSW Government Ministry of Transport reports that in 2005-06 there were 1,790,837 passengers travelling from Sydney Airport to the regional areas. This number has increased in 2006-07 to 1,881,076 and is still increasing for the 2007-08 period. Growth in passenger numbers will call for better airport infrastructure in the future.

To strengthen the link between major cities and regional towns and encourage the opening up of regional areas to new markets there must be an investment in improving airport facilities and renovating the passenger terminal buildings.

Given the remote positioning of the regional airports there is often not enough connectivity with other modes of transport such as busses to/from airport to coincide with flight schedules. If planes are delayed it leaves little option for passengers except to stay at the airport that has insufficient facilities. Enabling more efficient access is vital through the development of airport infrastructure.

Such measures will facilitate greater air traffic and ensure competitiveness in regional aviation. NSW Business Chamber believes that improved airport infrastructure and better connectivity accords with your commitment to contributing to the wellbeing of all Australians by fostering an efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you wish to discuss the above, please contact Aldina Aljukic on 02 9458 7576 or [aldina.aljukic@nswbc.com.au](mailto:aldina.aljukic@nswbc.com.au).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Rankin".

**Kathy Rankin**  
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