

Our ref: MA/ap: CM/RES-1169
Your ref: -

1 August 2011

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
PO Box 6022
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Minister Albanese

RE: Termination of the Enroute Rebate Scheme

Narrandera Shire Council at a recent meeting with Regional Express executives were advised of the proposed termination of the EnRoute Rebate Scheme effective June 2012.

The proposed termination will have a significant effect on the regional aviation industry. Council strongly urges the Government to reassess and extend the Enroute Rebate Scheme for a further four years as was the case when the coalition government extended the scheme in the financial year 2007/08.

Council is of the opinion that the rebate scheme provides an effective environment whereby air services to regional communities can continue to grow and develop and provide effective and affordable air services to regional communities.

By extending the rebate scheme for a further four years would provide certainty and will enable fares to remain affordable for regional travellers particularly given the introduction of the carbon tax effective 1 July 2012. It will also mean that operators can plan ahead with confidence for the development of the services they offer as well as looking at new services to communities who need them.

Council requests its objection to the termination of the Enroute Rebate Scheme be raised when parliament resumes.

Should you have any further enquiries please contact Mr Gerard McConnell of Council's Executive Services Department on (02) 6959 5500 or e-mail council@narrandera.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully



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