3 JULY 2013

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## MERIMBULA AIRPORT TO REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL P.M. FRIDAY 5 JULY 2013

Regional Express (Rex) has received notification from Merimbula airport that the airport will remain closed until mid afternoon on Friday 5 July 2013.

On Thursday 4 July, all Rex Merimbula services to/from both Sydney and Melbourne will operate to/from Moruya and bus transfers between Merimbula and Moruya are being provided. The a.m. bus will depart Merimbula at 8.30 a.m. and the p.m. bus will depart at 2.00p.m. Customers are advised to arrive at Merimbula airport 30 minutes prior to the scheduled bus departure times. A return bus service from Moruya to Merimbula is also being provided for inbound passengers into Merimbula.

On Friday 5 July, the a.m. Merimbula services to/from both Sydney and Melbourne will also operate to/from Moruya and a bus transfer between Merimbula and Moruya is being provided with an 8.30a.m. departure time from Merimbula airport.

Merimbula airport plans to re-open p.m. Friday 5 July. As a result Rex is planning to operate the Sydney service to/from Merimbula airport that is scheduled to arrive at Merimbula at 3.40pm and depart Merimbula at 4.00pm. Rex is also planning to operate the Melbourne service to/from Merimbula airport that is scheduled to arrive at Merimbula at 4.20pm and depart Merimbula at 4.40pm.

The runway at Merimbula airport remains non-compliant for night operations until Tuesday 9 July 2013. As a result Rex is not able to operate Rex flight ZL139 departing Sydney at 6.50pm, arriving Merimbula 8.25pm on Friday 5 July, Sunday 7 July and Monday 8 July. This also results in the cancellation of Rex flight ZL114 departing Merimbula at 6.30am, arriving Sydney 8.15am on Saturday 6 July, Monday 8 July and Tuesday 9 July. These flights (ZL139 and ZL114) will terminate and originate in Moruya during this extended interim period.

Impacted passengers will either be diverted to Moruya or re-accommodated to alternative Rex Merimbula flights where available. Alternatively, passengers may place tickets on hold for use at a later date and Rex will also provide a full refund if required. Affected passengers are advised to contact the Rex Customer Contact Centre on 13 17 13 or their Travel Agent.

Rex apologises for any inconvenience associated with rain delayed Merimbula airport works.

Regional Express (Rex) is Australia's largest independent regional airline operating a fleet of more than 40 Saab 340 aircraft on some 1,300 weekly flights to 35 destinations throughout New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Queensland. The Rex Group comprises Regional Express, air freight and charter operator Pel-Air Aviation and Dubbobased regional airline Air Link, as well as the pilot academy Australian Airline Pilot Academy.

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