

## 7 JANUARY 2011

## MEDIA RELEASE

## REX TO OFFER AID TO THOSE AFFECTED BY THE QUEENSLAND FLOOD

Regional Express (Rex) today announced that it has set aside a fund of \$200,000 for travel on its services for flood relief assistance in regional Queensland. Queensland's overall damage bill has been tipped to exceed \$5 billion with the full extent of the damage not yet known.

Premier Anna Bligh thanked Rex for supporting the Premiers' Disaster Relief Appeal. "Queensland is facing a flood disaster on an unprecedented scale and it will require an unparalleled rebuilding effort. More than 40 communities are impacted with more than 200,000 people affected in some way. We have a long, hard road ahead of us. Australians are digging deep to donate to our appeal and it's great to see companies like Rex coming forward with a generous donation."

Commenting on the flood relief effort, Rex Deputy Chairman John Sharp said that the floods have caused widespread devastation throughout regional Queensland and the Board and Management would like to play its small part in relief efforts.

"Rex's motto is 'Our Heart Is In The Country' and this is one of those occasions when country people can come together to help each other. A few years ago we set aside \$2.5 million worth of travel to assist communities affected by the drought. Last month we set aside \$200,000 worth of assistance when the floods hit the NSW regional areas. Today we feel compelled to do likewise for Queensland given the widespread devastation of the floods." Mr Sharp said.

"Community organisations and relief agencies as well as individuals are invited to tap into the fund that Rex has set aside to apply for travel on its network, which will enable them to play a critical role in providing services and assistance to those directly affected. This includes not just farmers, but also others in the rural communities, small businesses, community groups and individuals."

Airfare assistance can be applied through the Rex website at: <a href="http://www.rex.com.au/Sponsorship/FloodAssistanceRequest.aspx">http://www.rex.com.au/Sponsorship/FloodAssistanceRequest.aspx</a>.

Rex flies out of Townsville to Hughenden, Richmond, Julia Creek, Mt Isa, Winton and Longreach.

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 Dubbo-based regional airline Air Link, as well as the pilot academy Australian Airline Pilot Academy.

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