Our ref:

MA/ap: CM/RES-1169

2 August 2011

Senator John Hogg President of the Senate 876 Old Cleveland Road CARINA QLD 4152



Dear Mr President

RE: Implications of Carbon Tax Legislation to Regional Airlines

Narrandera Shire Council at its meeting held 19 July 2011 adopted the following Notice of Motion in relation to the implications of carbon tax legislation to regional airlines:

"That Council make representations through our Commonwealth Member of Parliament and the leader of the Senate to exempt rural commercial aviation such as Regional Express and Bus and Coach Operations from the Carbon Tax or levy in a similar way to Road Trucks for an additional 2 years".

Council recently had a meeting with Regional Express executives where it was advised that the implications of the carbon tax would cost Regional Express approximately \$2.5M per annum.

As you are aware Regional Express is a large regional carrier and additional implications such as carbon tax and the termination of the enroute rebate scheme will greatly affect its services to marginal ports. As such regional communities will suffer the loss of their essential air services.

By extending the enroute rebate scheme for a further four years and exempting regional airlines from the implications of carbon tax Council believes will stabilise the services regional airlines provide and allow the aviation industry to continue to serve regional Australia.

Council requests its objection to the termination of the Enroute Rebate Scheme and implications of the planned carbon tax and its effect on regional aviation be raised when the senate 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

Mark Amirtharajah General Manager