



LIZ PENFOLD GIVES EVIDENCE AT AVIATION HEARING

14 APRIL 2003

Member for Flinders Liz Penfold has called for State and Federal Government support for air services to regional areas when she recently gave evidence to the Federal enquiry into Commercial Regional Aviation Services.

Although Eyre Peninsula is already putting \$1 billion into Australia's economy she believes this could be doubled in 10 years.

"But if we are to fulfil this enormous potential for tourism, farming, fishing, aquaculture and mining business the region must be properly serviced by air" she said.

"People will not come to regional areas or stay in them if they and their families cannot gain employment and adequately access health and education services and fulfil their sporting and cultural potential" she said.

Mrs Penfold said she was very disappointed that hers was the only direct written submission that she was aware of and therefore she was the only person called to give evidence to the enquiry from the electorate. She said other people did give evidence as part of larger submissions.

"I concentrated on the social injustice of the current situation where only major towns on Eyre Peninsula now have an air service. I was expecting that the details of individual cases would be covered by submissions from the people and councils concerned" she said.

"The enquiry will accept submissions for the next 3 months and I urge individuals and councils to put their cases. Terms of reference for the enquiry are available from my office" she said.

"Taxes from our region have helped to put infrastructure and services in other areas and now we need their help to do the same in ours" she said.

Mrs Penfold called for a Federal regional aviation policy to delineate the responsibilities of the Local, State and Federal governments and to cover all aspects of air transport, to give leadership and guidance and to help provide equity for the people of Australia who live outside the capitals.

REGIONAL AVIATION SERVICES HEARING

9 April 2003

Member for Flinders Liz Penfold will appear at the Inquiry Into Commercial Regional Aviation Services in Australia hearing at Glenelg next Monday 14 April.

The hearing is part of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Transport and Regional Services inquiry into regional aviation services and alternative transport links to major populated islands.

Mrs Penfold has been invited to appear at the hearing after putting in a submission to the inquiry.

“The aviation industry is undergoing a period of change. It is possible that Port Lincoln and Ceduna will be the only two airports in the electorate where commercial aircraft are able to land.

“It is important that an inquiry of this nature understands the problems and difficulties that our region faces,” she said.