



MEDIA RELEASE

PC ENDORSEMENT OF LIGHT-HANDED REGULATION WELCOMED

The national infrastructure sector welcomes the Productivity Commission's draft report confirming that the current light-handed regulatory approach for airports is working for customers, says industry think tank [Infrastructure Partnerships Australia](#).

"The infrastructure sector welcomes the PC's endorsement today of the current approach to airport regulation and its recommendation that the present system be maintained," said Infrastructure Partnerships Australia CEO, Adrian Dwyer.

"Airports are core economic assets and anything we do to disrupt the well-balanced regulatory environment will jeopardise their planned \$20 billion decade-long investment program.

"The PC's report today vindicates the view that unnecessary changes to airport regulation would only serve to further escalate the already high levels of investor uncertainty in Australia.

"The Commission has reached the right conclusion in its finding that independent arbitration of disputes between the airlines and airports would hurt customers and hold up investment.

"The privatisation of Australia's airports is an infrastructure success story. It has led to huge investment in new capacity at our airports and a big lift in service standards over the last 20 years.

"The PC's recommendation reconfirms its position since 2002, and Infrastructure Australia's view in the Australian Infrastructure Plan, that the current regulatory framework is effective and works in the best interest of customers.

"While we welcome the draft report, we urge the Productivity Commission in determining its final report to stay the course and ensure the benefits of the current light-handed regulatory regime are upheld," Mr Dwyer said.

Infrastructure Partnerships Australia is an industry think tank providing independent policy research focused on excellence in social and economic infrastructure.

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