



**The Hon Anthony Albanese MP**

Minister for Infrastructure,  
Transport, Regional Development  
and Local Government

Leader of the House

Reference: 00656-2010

Dr Roger Clarke  
Chair - Australian Privacy Foundation  
Xamax Consultancy Pty Ltd  
78 Sidaway Street  
CHAPMAN ACT 2611

10 MAR 2010

Dear Dr Clarke

Thank you for your email dated 20 January 2010, in which you forwarded correspondence from the Australian Privacy Foundation, the Queensland Council for Civil Liberties, Civil Liberties Australia, the New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties and Liberty Victoria, about privacy concerns relating to the introduction of body scanners at Australia's international airports. I regret the delay in replying.

Security and safety remain the Australian Government's key priorities in the aviation sector. On 9 February 2010, the Government announced a comprehensive package of measures to strengthen Australia's aviation security regime. A key component of this package is the introduction of a range of new screening technologies, including body scanners, at international airport screening points.

The Government understands the privacy concerns some travellers may have regarding the introduction of body scanning technologies and is looking at a range of measures to ensure that issues, including privacy, are addressed.

The Office of Transport Security will continue to consult with a range of privacy stakeholders, through the Office of the Privacy Commissioner, about how the application of new screening technologies can be best managed to achieve the intended security outcome and take into account a range of sensitivities surrounding privacy.

As part of the acquisition process we will ensure privacy is a key factor to be considered when selecting equipment for use at Australian airports. This includes looking at the latest body scanning technologies which will protect the privacy of individuals being scanned.

Thank you for bringing these concerns to my attention and I trust this information will be of assistance.

Yours sincerely



ANTHONY ALBANESE