



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development

# The benefits of an airport at Badgerys Creek

## Significant economic and employment benefits

An airport at Badgerys Creek will be a catalyst for investment and job creation in Western Sydney. Analysis by Ernst and Young found that an airport at Badgerys Creek has the potential to generate \$24.6 billion in direct expenditure by 2060, and contribute a \$23.9 billion increase in gross domestic product to the national economy.

The site at Badgerys Creek is located within the New South Wales (NSW) Government's proposed expansion of the Western Sydney Employment Area (WSEA). The WSEA is expected to accommodate 57,000 new jobs within the next 30 years, with the potential for up to 212,000 jobs when fully developed.

An airport development at Badgerys Creek will contribute substantially in facilitating these jobs for Western Sydney. It could deliver approximately 35,000 jobs by 2035, increasing to over 60,000 by 2060.

While the initial construction phase could generate over 4,000 jobs, the ongoing operation of the airport would generate many more times this amount over its lifetime. Over 30,000 jobs could be generated directly in the airport's operation up to 2060, and indirect employment around the airport site could contribute an additional 30,000 jobs.

These jobs will also provide opportunities for Western Sydney residents to work closer to home and spend less time commuting. By 2035, it is expected that up to 17,000 residents within the airport region will be able to access employment opportunities closer to home.

By 2060, the number of residents working closer to home is expected to increase to approximately 30,000. This equates to local residents collectively saving nearly four million hours of commuter travel time.

## Aviation access to the growing Western Sydney market

Based on analysis in the *Joint Study on aviation capacity in the Sydney region*, residents of Western Sydney have a lower propensity to undertake air travel than the Sydney average. The location of Badgerys Creek relative to the population of Western Sydney would enable easier access and encourage more people to use aviation services.

A second airport will not merely be an overflow airport for Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport, but will tap into a new market of aviation users. Local demand alone could generate an additional 3.4 million trips per year by 2035 (slightly busier than Canberra Airport today), rising to six million trips by 2060 (equivalent to Gold Coast Airport today).

## Upgrades to surface transport infrastructure

One of the real benefits of an airport development is the upgrades and investment in other transport networks. The details of a major western Sydney infrastructure package will be announced in coming days.