

12 September 2025

The Hon. Catherine King MP  
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government  
Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Cc Senator the Hon. Don Farrell, Minister for Trade and Tourism

Dear Minister King,

**RE: Australian Tourism Industry Council Support for Sustainable Aviation Fuels**

Thank you for our recent meeting in Canberra and discussion on aviation and Australia tourism.

On behalf of the Australian Tourism Industry Council (ATIC), I am writing to express our strong support for the onshore production of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) and the transition to SAF in Australian aviation.

ATIC is the national peak body for the Australian tourism industry. ATIC members represent more than 9,000 tourism business members with a network of 28,000 tourism professionals. Our State and Territory members represent all regions and all sectors from tour and transport operators to accommodation, attractions, events, retail, hospitality and tourism experiences.

**Strategic Importance for Australian Tourism**

The Australian tourism industry relies heavily on both domestic and international aviation. International visitors travelling to Australia, as well as domestic visitors exploring our diverse regions, depend on air transport. The availability of SAFs in Australia is therefore essential for:

- International competitiveness: Ensuring Australia remains an attractive and accessible destination as global aviation increasingly adopts sustainable fuel standards
- Domestic tourism growth: Supporting the expansion of domestic travel while meeting environmental responsibilities
- Industry sustainability: Enabling the aviation and tourism sectors to meet carbon reduction commitments and contribute to Australia's net-zero targets
- Economic resilience: Future-proofing our industry against potential carbon pricing mechanisms and international environmental regulations

**Long-term Industry Benefits**

The development of SAF product in Australia would provide numerous advantages for tourism:

- Reduced environmental impact: Lower carbon emissions from aviation will enhance Australia's reputation as a responsible tourism destination
- Regulatory preparedness: Positioning our industry ahead of anticipated international emissions standards and requirements
- Cost stability: Developing domestic SAF production capacity could provide greater fuel price stability and energy security

In association with



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## Domestic and Regional Aviation Transition to SAF

As you are aware, ATIC is concerned with the impact of domestic aviation costs on Australia's tourism competitiveness.

We anticipate the transition to SAF would further increase fuel costs in the short to medium term. Consequently, we urge the Australian Government to support the development of SAF production and increase local supply to lower SAF costs in the long term through:

- Strategic investment in SAF research, development, and production facilities
- Supportive regulatory frameworks that encourage SAF adoption
- Policy measures to mitigate the cost impact on regional aviation

A successful transition to Australian made SAF is dependent on policy frameworks that support sustainability, supply certainty and affordability. We believe that supporting local SAF production, with appropriate regional cost mitigation measures, is essential for the sustainable future of Australian tourism.

ATIC will work collaboratively with government, airlines, and other stakeholders to support the successful transition to sustainable aviation fuels in Australia. Please feel free to contact me on 03 9978 6801 or [emcleod@qualitytourismaustralia.com](mailto:emcleod@qualitytourismaustralia.com) should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,



Erin McLeod  
CEO  
Australian Tourism Industry Council

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