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Media Release

Coalition still won't give up on an airport at Badgerys Creek

The Liberal-National Coalition has not ruled out breathing life back into an airport at Badgerys Creek, said Federal Member for Lindsay, David Bradbury.

Late last year, the Federal Government released its Aviation White Paper, which confirmed the Rudd Government's commitment to dump Badgerys as the site for a second Sydney airport.

As part of this process, the Federal Government and NSW State Government will now look at turning the Badgerys site, which lies along the key M7 motorway corridor, into a hub for economic development and job-generation for Western Sydney.

Shadow Minister for Transport and Leader of the National Party, Warren Truss, however, said that it was 'disappointing' that Badgerys Creek will no longer be the site for Sydney's second airport. He told a Sydney radio station that Badgerys Creek remained 'the very best site' for Sydney's second airport:

"Now that's disappointing because there was a detailed study done at the time, and it [Badgerys Creek] was the only practical site for a second airport in Sydney."

(17 December 2009, radio station 2SM)

"Warren Truss is not some obscure, maverick Coalition backbencher. He is the Shadow Transport Minister and would become the Deputy Prime Minister if the Liberal-National party were to win the next election," said Mr Bradbury.

Adding to Mr Truss' comments, Liberal Leader Tony Abbott has confirmed the worst suspicions of the residents of Western Sydney by failing to abandon the Coalition's support for an airport at Badgerys Creek. When asked by reporters late last year whether he would rule out building an airport at Badgerys Creek, he refused to answer the question on three occasions ([Click Here to see transcript](#)).

“The Rudd Government has listened to the people of Western Sydney and we have killed off Badgerys Creek airport. Only a Liberal-National government can breathe life back into Badgerys,” said Mr Bradbury.

“We are committed to consigning the plan for a Badgerys Creek airport to the dustbin and working with the State Government and the local community to develop an alternative use for the site that will boost jobs and economic activity in Western Sydney.

“In office the Coalition failed to kill off Badgerys by failing to remove its designation as a future airport and now in Opposition, they continue to want to keep the Badgerys airport option alive.

By setting the Badgerys Creek site aside for an airport, Tony Abbott would be condemning all of those landholders surrounding the Badgerys site to years of further harsh restrictions on their land, and we would miss the opportunity to turn the site into a centre for economic development in our region.

“The community has spoken on this issue. We do not want an airport at Badgerys Creek. The Rudd Government has listened to the community, and killed off Badgerys.

“The Coalition, however, just doesn’t seem to be listening.”