

9 JANUARY 2015

MEDIA RELEASE

SKYTRANS ADMINISTRATOR OBSTRUCTS REX AIR SERVICES TO CAPE

Regional Express (Rex) regrets to announce that it will not be in a position to commence scheduled air services to the remote Cape York communities before the end of January as foreshadowed in its media release of 2 January 2015.

Rex's General Manager of Network Strategy and Sales Mr Warrick Lodge explained that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) has an emergency mechanism known as a "Charter Substitution Arrangement" which would allow Rex to obtain regulatory approval to commence regular air services within a week.

"The Charter Substitution Arrangement requires a sign-off by the Skytrans Administrator as a formality and it does not carry any liability, risks or responsibility for the defunct operator and its Administrator. Unfortunately the Administrator has refused to cooperate in signing-off on the Charter Substitution Arrangement, in spite of an offer of full indemnity by Rex and representations made by the Department of Transport and Main Roads."

"It is disappointing that the Skytrans Administrator has chosen to leave the affected Cape communities high and dry at a time when these remote communities are being cut off by the wet-season."

Rex has no choice but to commence the regulatory approval process to operate Regular Passenger Transport (RPT) air services to the Cape on its 34-seat Saab 340 aircraft. Rex will therefore postpone its service commencement date until mid March 2015* with services to Kowanyama, Edward River, Aurukun and Bamaga (see attached schedule). Lockhart River and Coen present more operational challenges and are still being analysed for feasibility.

Tickets will be available for sale from Thursday 15 January 2015.

Regional Express (Rex) is Australia's largest independent regional airline operating a fleet of more than 40 Saab 340 aircraft on some 1,300 weekly flights to 52 destinations throughout New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Queensland. The Rex Group comprises Regional Express, air freight and charter operator Pel-Air Aviation and Dubbo-based regional airline Air Link, as well as the pilot academy Australian Airline Pilot Academy.

* *Subject to regulatory approval.*

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Rex Cape York Schedule

CAIRNS - AURUKUN

TUESDAY [⚡]			
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.
CNS	AUU	1300	1435
AUU	CNS	1505	1640

THURSDAY [⚡]			
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.
CNS	AUU	0800	0935
AUU	CNS	1005	1140

CAIRNS - EDWARD RIVER - KOWANYAMA

MONDAY, TUESDAY & FRIDAY [⚡]			
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.
CNS	EDR	0745	0910
EDR	KWM	0940	1005
KWM	CNS	1030	1145

CAIRNS - BAMAGA

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY [⚡]			
Origin	Dest.	Dep.	Arr.
CNS	ABM	1245	1445
ABM	CNS	1515	1715

[⚡] Proposed schedules only. Schedules are subject to regulatory approval.

CNS = Cairns	AUU = Aurukun	EDR = Edward River	KWM = Kowanyama
ABM = Bamaga			