Dear Committee Secretary,

Below is my submission in the Senate Inquiry involving Senator Xenophon on October 22nd, 2012. This is regarding the ditching of aircraft VH-NGA and the reports that are in conflict.

I believe the Australian Transport Safety Bureau needs to be completely separate to Aviation Investigations.

Bureau of Air Safety Investigation (BASI) commenced 7th May, 1982 after being amalgamated with shipping.

- 7/5/1982 BASI stands alone
- 01//7/1995 CASA created
- 06/07/1995 Air Services created
- 01/07/1999 ATSB from via amalgamation
- Currently aviation investigation is carried out by the ATSB which is amalgamated with Marine, Rail and some road
- The one main, very important unbreakable law/element that makes aviation stand out is GRAVITY.
- Surely there needs to be a totally separate investigative body that have employees that are extremely qualified, dedicated and honest. I feel the outcome would be an increase focus on air safety investigation. Findings...and tellings of the lessons learnt, not react in an unprofessional manner. Evidence on numerous levels.
- The ditching of VH-NGA has given the opportunity for many lessons to be learnt yet the focus now is the conflict of CASA and ATSB reports that the real matter of air safety.
- Over 2 Million people fly, against gravity every month in this country.
- A totally dedicated investigative body with the correct format of risk management and dedicated, qualified staff to protect our transports busiest medium is required This includes A380s to Citarborias, a life is a life.

The purpose of this concise explanation of my request is to do nothing else other than to increase air safety. Gravity is the strongest force on a plane, I'm sure the thought has ran through every single mind of the persons that fly that read this. There needs to be change before an air disaster occurs of large magnitude. We were fortunate to survive, and thank goodness, otherwise it would be my guess this case would have been closed two years ago as pilot error. I hope our survival instigates some real change within our aviation industry.

I believe I have enough evidence to support my submission if required to attend.

Best Regards,
Karen Casey.