

Canberra Airport
2 Brindabella Circuit
Brindabella Business Park
CANBERRA AIRPORT ACT 2609



- 1 MAY 2009

Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to your invitation for public comment on your 2009 Preliminary Draft Master Plan I wish to make the following objections.

Inadequate Information of Aircraft Noise

You propose to operate a 24 hour freight hub at Canberra Airport. This is a significant change to the current usage of the airport, involving bigger, noisier and more frequent planes. The community has the right to know how a freight hub would impact on our homes, and particularly our sleeping hours. I do not consider that your Draft Master Plan discharges this onus of proof, because your information is neither accessible, nor accurate. Independent noise information is crucial to any meaningful community consultation on the proposed 24 hour freight hub, and I therefore request the right to further comment after the noise expert appoint by the ACT Government reports later this year.

Unacceptable Disturbance of Sleep

There are clear standards from the World Health Organisation about the noise levels at which sleep disturbance occurs, and the consequent adverse impacts on health. These must be recognised. Your claims that existing aircraft noise protection measures will adequately protect residents from future aircraft noise are not supported by any evidence, and I have no confidence in them. You are encroaching on our treasure peace and quiet, which once lost will be gone forever. I have lived in Sydney near to the Sydney Airport. Sydney residents have their sleep protected from aircraft noise by a curfew from 11 pm to 6 am, and as a matter of equity we expect the same.

My Requests

- . A night time curfew on aircraft movements from 11 pm to 6 am
- . No 24 hour freight hub or second Sydney airport
- . Recognition of health standards regarding sleep disturbance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Merridy Backhouse".

Merridy Backhouse

HARRISON ACT 2914
30 April 2009