



4 MAY 2009

Watson, ACT 2602

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

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

We have already been woken up on many occasions by planes flying overhead before 7:00am both on weekdays and weekends. Therefore, we are extremely concerned by your proposal 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. We are concerned about the impact of a freight hub on our homes (including land values, given that we have a hefty mortgage) and our sleeping hours. Independent noise information is crucial to any meaningful consultation on the proposed freight hub, and we therefore request the right to further comment after the noise expert appointed by the ACT Government reports later this year.

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 we have no confidence in them. You are encroaching on our right to peace and quiet. Sydney residents have their sleep protected from aircraft noise by a curfew from 11pm to 6am – all that we are asking for is the same protections, rather than Canberra residents being treated as second class citizens by having to put up with noise which Sydney residents have rejected as unacceptable.

We therefore request:

- a night time curfew on aircraft movements from 11pm to 6am;
- no 24 hour freight hub or second Sydney airport; and
- recognition of international health standards regarding sleep disturbance.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Fardell and Robert Clark
3 May 2009