

Canberra International Airport
1/2 Brindabella Circuit
Brindabella Business Park
CANBERRA AIRPORT ACT 2609

Lesley Pulsford
AINSLIE ACT 2602

Dear Sir/Madam



8 MAY 2009

Submission to 2009 Draft Master Plan – Canberra Airport

In response to your invitation for public comment on your 2009 draft Master Plan I wish to make the following comments and strong objections.

Unacceptable Increase in Carbon Footprint

I am deeply concerned by climate change and the very serious threat it poses to our future. Your proposed significant expansion of the aviation industry is completely at odds with global efforts to urgently reduce our carbon footprint, and would undermine commendable efforts by the ACT and Rudd Governments to reduce GHG emissions. Because aircraft produce significantly more greenhouse gas per km than surface transport, developing an aircraft-based freight hub is particularly counter to the principles of environmentally sustainable transportation.

The carbon impact of carrying freight by air is significantly greater than by road and this impact should be considered in your planning.

Could you please advise what measures you will implement to counteract the unacceptable increase in carbon emissions from aviation due to your proposals?

If you cannot do this, then I consider that it is morally reprehensible to plan to contribute so dramatically to a problem that is the largest threat to our environment since the threat of nuclear war.

This proposal is motivated by economic greed without any responsibility for the impact it will have on the environment.

Unacceptable Increase in Aircraft Noise

Your plan proposes, encourages and depends upon a massive increase in the frequency of flights, and the size of aircraft. I strongly object to this on the basis of the increase in noise that will adversely affect the wildlife in the Ainslie-Majura Nature Reserve and inner north and other Canberra residents. This night-time noise is likely to have a negative affect on the health of myself and my family and the increase in noise both day and night will dramatically affect our amenity and life style.

We already have double glazed windows but need to have these open at night all year round for reasons of our health. We also live here because we enjoy our local environment and our

outside parts of our residence are also important to us. So please do not suggest that double glazing is any solution.

I understand that the noise data and statements in the Master plan are misleading and in some cases incorrect. This can be seen by a careful reading of the inconsistencies in the plan and by comparison with data provided by Curfew4Canberra.

Independent noise information is crucial to any meaningful community consultation about and assessment of the impact of the proposed 24-hour freight hub and expansion of the airport for increased passenger traffic.

I therefore request that the Government decision on the Master Plan be delayed until after the noise expert appointed by the ACT Government reports later this year and the public has had a chance to access and analysis the information in this report.

Planning issues

This development should be considered at a regional level because it will have massive regional impacts. These issues include increased truck and car traffic – some of this in residential areas and adverse social and economic impacts on other areas of the ACT through the expansion of the Brindabella Park business district.

Please advise what assessment is being carried out and how you will address these impacts.

My requests

- A proper **public environmental impact assessment** of the proposed developments taking into consideration climate change implications and the impacts on the surrounding natural and social environments from the increases in day and night time flights and road transport to pick up the freight and other impacts that will be a direct consequence of the ongoing development proposed under the draft Master Plan.
- A night time curfew on aircraft movements (emergency craft or occasional flights due to delays only between 11pm and 6am).
- No development of a 24 hour (or other) freight hub.
- No construction of a parallel runway.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Pulsford