

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

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 on Aircraft Noise**

You propose to operate a 24 hour freight hub at Canberra Airport. I note there is mention on your website now that there is agreement to a curfew at night from 11pm to 6am. I would support this.

If the intention is to operate a freight hub, even with a night curfew, this would be a significant change to the current usage of the airport, involving bigger, noisier and more frequent planes. If there is no curfew that change would be substantial.

The community has the right to know how a freight hub would impact on our homes, both during the day and during the night.

I do not consider that your draft Master Plan discharges this onus of proof, because your information is neither accessible, nor accurate. You state that 'no residents within the ACT...will be exposed at any time to noise over 65 decibels...' (page 80), but existing 737 aircraft regularly generate 65 decibels and over in Hackett according to the new Hackett Noise Monitor (see WebTrak at [www.cbr.webtrak-lochard.com](http://www.cbr.webtrak-lochard.com)). Independent noise information is crucial to any meaningful community consultation on the proposed freight hub.

I live in Hackett, and the planes fly very close to the highest point of Mt Majura. When the planes (current size of aircraft) fly overhead those in my household have to cease any conversation and we cannot hear any music or television that may be on. Clearly this noise is greater than 65 decibels. I am concerned that some of the new freight aircraft that will now land and take-off from Canberra Airport will be even noisier. I know that many of the smaller planes that continue to fly over Hackett on occasion are extremely noisy, even noisier than the 737 aircraft.

Also why when there is largely undeveloped, or significantly less densely populated land to the east of Mt Majura, can't planes that take-off travel well back to the east of Mt Majura before turning south?

### **Unacceptable Disturbance of Sleep – if 24 hour freight hub proposed.**

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 treasured peace and quiet, which once lost will be gone forever. Sydney residents have their sleep protected from aircraft noise by a curfew from 11pm to 6am, and as a matter of equity we expect the same.

**My requests**

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

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Taylor-Steele

Hackett ACT 2602.

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**From:** Mark & Sandra  
**Sent:** Sunday, 3 May 2009 1:56 PM  
**To:** Info @ Canberra Airport  
**Cc:** curfew4canberra@gmail.com  
**Subject:** [NEWSENDER] - Submission to 2009 Draft Master Plan - Message is from an unknown sender

Please find attached a submission to the Canberra airport draft 2009 masterplan.

Thank you

Sandra Taylor-Steele