

22 March 2019

**To: The Australian Government Productivity Commission**

**RE: ECONOMIC REGULATION OF AIRPORTS**

I understand there are plans to reduce the aircraft noise curfew or even to scrap it altogether. I wish to submit my opposition to any change which makes an already unpleasant regime impossible to live with.

I live in Hunters Hill, in Boronia Park, and have been here since 1998. It has always seemed as though the landing glide path directly over my house has been used more than any other, as the days of peace and quiet are few. Notwithstanding this subjective impression, the fact is that the first aircraft coming in to land wakes our family at exactly 6.00am, and they often continue till late at night. The sound level is such that we routinely pause the television when a plane goes over.

The noise can, on occasions when sound travels further or an aircraft is on the low part of its glide path, be quite disturbing as well as deafening.

I do not know if any steepening of the glide path has been employed up to now, but I do submit that a change in inclination of a few percent would be of great benefit to those who live in suburbs like Hunters Hill that are some distance from the airport. It would probably make no improvement for those who live close by.

I submit that any extension of the flying hours in the northern corridor would be deleterious to the health and enjoyment of all in my neighbourhood. Under the present curfew we have 8 hours available to sleep; any reduction in the curfew would reduce the sleep time of many thousands of people to less than an acceptable minimum.

It may be possible to extend the flying hours to the third runway, which is approached over water; but I have no information on that. I ask therefore with respect that the Commission not only resist any relaxation of the curfew but, if it is your remit to do so, I ask the Commission to review the present flight path arrangements to see if any improvement can be made to aircraft noise pollution, either generally in North Sydney, or specifically to Hunters Hill.

Yours sincerely,

**Alan Bird**