

24 March 2110

The Manager
Productivity Commission of New South Wales

ECONOMIC REGULATION OF AIRPORTS: SUBMISSION RE AIRCRAFT NOISE

Dear Sir/Madam

We strongly oppose any change in the current hours of operation of Sydney Airport.

We live directly under the flight path. The noise pollution starts before 6am and continues all day and night until after 11pm. The airlines don't bother much about observing the cut off times. It's bad enough here in Hunters Hill, but it's worse in Leichhardt where we had dinner last night. There was deafening noise which stopped all conversation as aircraft passed over head.

Six in the morning to 11pm is enough damage to the quality of life. Allowing aircraft to continue all night will see an exodus from Hunters Hill, and everyone else in the flight path, or we'll all have to buy ear plugs and stop trying to hear anything. The noise is considerably worse when there is heavy cloud cover.

We suffer aircraft noise every day of our lives. When aircraft approach and pass our home overhead, we:

- can't have phone conversations or any conversations,
- can't hear the radio or TV,
- get woken at night by the propellor craft outside curfew hours, and
- the house rattles when heavy aircraft are taking off and subject us to deafening noise.

We strongly resent any suggestion that increasing the efficiency of Sydney Airport is a reason to impose a further reduction of quality on the lives of the citizens of Sydney. Managing demand within the present hours is within the capacity of the Airport. If it is not, efficiency will have to come second to the health of the population of Sydney.

Please do not make any change to the current curfew hours. If anything, they should be reduced, for the welfare of our citizens and the quality of life in all affected parts of Sydney. People come before profits and your obligation is to ensure that commercial motives do not override the rights of citizens to live in relative peace within city environments, without destructive noise levels ruining the quality of our lives.

Yours faithfully

Ms Heather Armstrong and Dr Allan Coles AM