

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Rural and
Regional Affairs and Transport
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Mr C & M Wilson

22 January 2010

To Whom It May Concern

My husband and I write to you regarding our concern about the increase in air traffic noise in our residential area – Waterford, Perth, Western Australia. Of particular concern is the excessive noise of flights between 11pm and 6am (when residents need their rest).

I have been in contact with our Federal MP Mr Steve Irons' office and also complained to the relevant air traffic authority in Sydney by telephone. Sydney airport and many European airports have a curfew between 11pm and 6am and I think this should be considered for Perth Airport, as the predicted population for Perth increases so will the volume of air traffic and increased noise from these aircraft.

Mr Irons is asking for noise insulation for homes in affected suburbs such as Belmont (close to the airport), but that would be of no help to us as we are 10km from the airport. I understand the flight paths have changed and we are now adversely affected. In summer we prefer to sleep with the windows open rather than have air-conditioners on during the night because we are conscious of conserving energy and green-house issues, so of course the problem is exacerbated during this time. Our neighbour has stated she now sleeps with earplugs so I have decided to include a petition from neighbours with this submission!

Research shows lack of sleep and/or interrupted sleep has a negative effect on productivity and one's health-both of which have an increasing cost to society. The changes to the flight paths at Perth Airport were implemented with no consultation with the residents in areas such as ours, on the Canning River Foreshore, which now seems to be a direct flight path.

In conclusion I wish you to consider a curfew from 11pm-6am for Perth Airport or a change of flight paths so the noise can be shared by other suburbs ie. over the hills or industrial areas of Perth, which would inconvenience residents in the residential suburbs to a lesser degree.

Please give this your considered attention.

Yours faithfully

Marlene Wilson
Charles Wilson

MARLENE WILSON & CHARLES WILSON