

PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

23rd January 2010

Dear Committee Secretary,

I am lodging my submission to the Senate Inquiry into aircraft noise caused by new flight paths over Bedfordale, Roleystone and Armadale, Western Australia. I am objecting to the noise and disturbance created by the new flight paths, and the fact that the community were not consulted before the flight paths were introduced.

I live in Armadale, near the town centre, and for the last year had noticed an increased number of aircraft flying near or over my home, but was not aware of the new flight paths. To my knowledge, the community were not surveyed first to obtain opinion and feedback about the proposed new flight paths, and were not informed when the flight paths began service. The only reason I know about the new flight paths is because I recently read articles and letters about the subject in my local community newspaper. The articles contained information about the new flight paths, and interviews with residents who were obviously angry and frustrated at suddenly finding their homes were now near or underneath major air traffic routes. The letters were from members of the community objecting to the lack of community consultation about the proposed flight paths, and the increased noise and disturbance resulting from more aircraft flying over the area.

Various types of aircraft now fly near or over my home, at various times of the day and night. The aircraft include helicopters, small planes, and medium to large jets, and are usually flying low, directly over my home or nearby residences. Some of this air traffic occurs late at night, when most people would be asleep, and the noise would cause more of a disturbance. I am often woken up at midnight or the early morning hours by the incessant thudding and whirring of helicopter propellers, or the whine and roar of jet engines. Sometimes, I have been startled awake by the proximity of the noise, thought the aircraft must be experiencing engine trouble to be flying so low, and have been worried the plane is likely to crash. During the day, the low-flying air traffic is also cause for concern about the privacy of residents, given the possibility that people in the aircraft can gain a relatively close view of residents in their homes and gardens.

Being a resident of Armadale for nine years, I have come to appreciate the country-style charm of the district, and the advantages of living at a distance from the noise and pollution of the main city centre.

I believe the creation of new flight paths over Bedfordale, Roleystone and Armadale is disturbing the peace and quiet of the area, and affecting the residents' quality of life. I believe the community need to be consulted about the new flight paths, and that the current routes should be reconsidered and altered to minimise the impact on residents.

Yours faithfully,


Kathleen Dzubiell