

POSITION STATEMENT OF SACF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES
AUSTRALIAN NOISE EXPOSURE FORECAST (ANEF/ANEI/ANEC)

Community confidence in the Australian Noise Exposure Forecast methodology has been, and continues to be, undermined by the actions and inactions of the Australian Government Aviation Bureaucracy. This includes:

1. Unwillingness to commission and fund a second national social survey on community reaction to aircraft noise in Australia in order to update the findings of the first survey in 1980;
2. Failure to produce ANEF, ANEI or ANEC maps showing contours for exposure levels below 20;
3. Failure to produce maps showing the percentages of population seriously and moderately affected;
4. Failure to make publicly available all of the measures of aircraft noise capable of being derived from the Integrated Noise Model (INM) previously and the Aviation Environmental Design Tool (AEDT) currently;
5. The manifestly inappropriate, demonstrably invalid and totally unacceptable use of N70 instead of ANEF as the basis for flight path design with respect to both Western Sydney and Brisbane airports;
6. Concern expressed by Airservices Australia regarding the “efficacy and use” of ANEF/ANEI.

The Community Representatives of SACF (Sydney Airport Community Forum) are fully aware of the distinction between a measure of aircraft noise exposure and a measure of the detrimental impact which this noise can be expected to have on an exposed population. ANEF Computer Modelling and the associated dose-response relationship provides the only measure of impact currently available in Australia.

It is essential that this information based on ANEF be used for flightpath planning and also in the evaluation of noise sharing modes in order to achieve a fair and equitable distribution of aircraft noise that cannot otherwise be minimised or prevented – which is the ultimate objective of the ‘*Long Term Operating Plan for Sydney Airport and Associated Airspace*’ (LTOP).

The concerns which SACF Community Representatives have expressed in their individual submissions regarding these failures of Government, should not be misinterpreted or misrepresented as a criticism of ANEF as an aircraft noise exposure metric, notwithstanding that there is an urgent need to improve the way this metric is currently being applied and also to update the national social survey on which it is based.

Submission 129 ‘*ANEF: Misunderstanding and Misapplication*’ by Emeritus Professor Andrew Hede and Mr Tony Williams is supported and endorsed in its entirety without any qualification.

Kevin Hill
SACF Community Representative – South
IMC Community Representative

John Clarke
SACF Community Representative – North (acting)
IMC Community Representative

Maria Patrinos
SACF Community Representative – West

Alan Dukes
SACF Community Representative – East

Bob Hayes
SACF Community Representative – North

Dated 7 August 2024