



Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

Dear Committee Members

Aeromodellers New South Wales (ANSW) represents over 2000 recreational aeromodellers in NSW comprising no less than 22% of the national membership of the Model Aeronautical Association of Australia (MAAA).

ANSW has a long and demonstrated commitment to promoting and supporting the safe operation and flying of unmanned aircraft (in our case termed “model aircraft” given that our individual members use them only for recreational and sporting activities). We also educate and direct the management of safe flying sites across the state. All such activities are conducted in accordance with the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998 (CASR) Subparts 101 A, B, C and G.

MAAA as the National organisation representing aeromodellers in Australia has been a Recreational Aviation Administrative Organisation (RAAO) for many years and as such, it has developed its own safe flying practices that are enshrined in our Manual of Procedures (MOPs). All of our members undertake to apply this suite of operational procedures in undertaking their enjoyment of our sport. These procedures enable and direct our members to operate their model aircraft with a very high degree of safety consciousness and have been recognized by CASA as providing an extremely high level of safety assurance.

All of our flying activities are conducted at ANSW member club sites. Where there is a requirement under the regulations for operations to be conducted under an approval, each approval is evaluated and issued by CASA after the thorough review of a safety risk assessment covering all aspects of the proposed activity.

ANSW in conjunction with the MAAA has for a number of years embarked on education programs through which we endeavour to inform the general public on safe flying practices. We assist CASA’s education program by distributing safety brochures on their behalf. Due to the ever increasing number of recreational aircraft in the community, we consider that education more so than regulation is the way to achieve safety objectives

ANSW has no comment on the “commercial” use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) as this is covered by CASR Subparts 101 A, B, C and F (F being the primary Subpart that regulates RPAs for commercial use).

Our organisation has been subject to oversight by CASA’s Sport Aviation team for many years. Members of the Sport Aviation team have visited our club sites, given presentations at National and club level meetings and also attended our National competition. All events and sites fly under a CASA Instrument of Approval with the full support of Air Services Australia.



The relationship between ANSW and CASA continues to be one of mutual respect and support for a very high level of safety at every ANSW flying site.

It is our submission to the Committee that model aircraft being flown by our members for sport and recreational purposes and in accordance with CASR 101 and MAAA MOPs are and have been flown in a manner which takes into account the safety of the public and aviation in general. We believe that this has been the demonstrated position for many years and needs no further regulations to restrict model aircraft activities.

Yours Sincerely

Bob Carpenter
President