

24 January 2010

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

Noisy, low flying aircraft over Ferndale suburb of Perth.

Sunday 24/1/2010 woken up at 6.10 am this morning by the loud noise of a low flying overhead aircraft, we were reminded to write this submission.

My wife has lodged complaints with the Airport Noise Complaints number 1800 802 584 when the noise has been particularly annoying – being woken in early hours of the morning; not able to hear on the phone; having to significantly increase volume of radio & TV to hear, etc.

One report by my wife on 11 Jan 2010 indicated flight times for noisy, low flying aircraft over our house were 5.40 am, 5.44 am, 6.01 am, 6.11 am, 6.17 am, 6.21 am, 6.25 am, 6.36 am, 7.01 am, 7.07 am, 7.12 am, 7.25 am, 7.44 am with other aircraft not directly over our house in between these times.

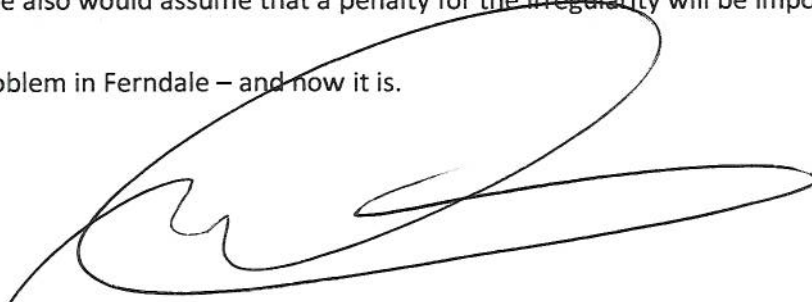
On 22 Jan 2010 someone from the Noise Enquiry Unit rang on a day we had been woken at 2.10 am and again around 5.30 am with noisy, low flying aircraft. She was told that there has been a significant increase in air traffic at Perth airports, and that aircraft are using fewer flight path patterns.

I, myself, have worked in this area for 34 years and lived in the area for over 3 years. The aircraft noise is now often almost continuous at certain periods, (as one fades, the next starts). Even 12 months ago, this was never the case.

Obviously some change of pattern has occurred and there was no consultation with affected home owners. We presume this is an irregularity, and the correct course of action is to return to the old flight patterns, carry out full and proper consultation/application necessary and then change if their application is approved. We also would assume that a penalty for the irregularity will be imposed.

Aircraft noise was not a problem in Ferndale – and now it is.

Dr & Mrs M.R. Jones

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'M.R. Jones' written in a cursive, flowing script.