21 January 2010

P Trowbridge

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please accept this submission as a comment upon the Senate Standing Committee regarding the Senate Inquiry into aircraft noise in the Perth metropolitan area.

It would seem that within the last six months aircraft flight paths have been amended – without any advertisements or public consultation and my family and I have been adversely affected. It is not unusual to endure thirty planes within three hours, windows rattling and being woken from a deep sleep through aircraft noise.

On 19th January I received a letter from Steve Irons, MP advising that submissions are invited to the Senate Inquiry. No word however was received from Airservices Australia. It is unfortunate that the public have only been given ten (10) days in order to make a submission. I was extremely disappointed that there has been no previous consultation whatsoever by Airservices Australia. My family and I have lived at the above address for the past 22 and a half years and during the past 22 years have had no problems with aircraft noise. This however has changed considerably in the past few months.

Not only has the aircraft noise impacted negatively upon our lifestyle, but I believe has also affected the re-sale value of our property. It is now only sometimes possible to enjoy outdoor living without the constant whine and pollution of aircraft above.

When I telephoned the aircraft noise complaint number in August 2009 I was informed by a man in Sydney that we lived close to the airport and could expect nothing better. Whilst this may be the case in Sydney our household has never been affected before. His tone was most unfriendly and unhelpful. I tried to explain that we have not experienced these problems for the last 22 years but the complaint did not appear to register with him. This does not seem to bode well for adequate future public dialogue with Airservices Australia and I doubt whether this complies with legislation, nor is accountable or transparent to the public.

Whilst insulation, double glazing etc. would be a practical outcome, this still does not address the de-valuation of properties due to the amended flight paths.

Yours faithfully

P Trowbridge