



Camden Council
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Binder: Camden Airport

29 July 2010

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

To the Committee Secretary

Airports Amendment Bill 2010 Submission

Council is generally accepting of the key areas in which the Bill amends the Act. These issues are:

- Strengthening the requirements for airport master plans and major development plans to support more effective airport planning and better alignment with State, Territory and local planning;
- In relation to the first five years of a master plan, requiring additional information such as a ground transport plan and detailed information on proposed developments to be used for purposes not related to airport services (eg. commercial community, office or retail purposes);
- Restructuring the triggers for major development plans including capturing proposed developments with a significant community impact;
- Prohibiting specified types of development which are incompatible with the operation of an airport site as an airport; and
- Integrating the airport environment strategy into the master plan requiring only one public comment period for the combined document recognising that an airport environment strategy is better articulated in the context of the airport's master plan.

However, Camden Council has some concerns regarding:

- Airport-lessee companies being able to seek exemption from the major development process for aeronautical development;
- Airports having an opportunity to demonstrate the existence of exceptional circumstances to proceed with some development that would be regarded as incompatible with airport operations;
- The non legislative establishment of Planning Coordination Forums and Community Aviation Consultation Groups.

Camden Council requests that local planning provisions are acknowledged and reflected in airport master plans and that with regard to any exemptions that the local Council is given an opportunity to comment.

While the setting up of Planning Coordination Forums and Community Aviation Consultation Groups is a way forward, Council is unsure how this will be achieved if it

is not a legislative requirement. Council however supports the setting up of these forums and groups.

Camden Council is grateful for the opportunity to make a submission to the Inquiry into the Airports Amendment Bill 2010 and supports any positive step towards more effective integration of the airport planning process with State, Territory and local governments. If you require any further information from Council please contact Mary-Anne Madden on (02) 4654 7803.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MA Madden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary-Anne Madden
Senior Project Officer - Strategic Planning