

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

11 May 2010

To Whom It May Concern

I have been advised by the Committee Secretary that I can still make a submission even though the lodgement date for written submissions has passed.

I first moved to Belmont in March 2006 and at this time I experienced very little aircraft noise, despite the close proximity of my residence (< 5km) to Perth airport. What little noise I did hear was mostly a distant rumble late at night and it did not affect my quality of life at all.

This situation has changed dramatically and for the worse. With Tuesday mornings being a peak day for FIFO services there is literally constant noise from about 5.30am. The level of noise is such that it wakes me up - this is not a distant rumble anymore, it's a loud roar that shakes the windows and rattles the doors. The volume of air traffic at this time is so high that there is no chance to get back to sleep, it persists for 2 hours and then drops off suddenly again around 7.30am.

You may not consider this much of an inconvenience, but the other time when I now experience a lot of aircraft noise is around midnight. I am woken up late at night AND early in the morning. I often work long hours and need to be mentally alert when performing my work. This is made very difficult when sleep is constantly disrupted by aircraft noise.

I received absolutely no communication from Airservices Australia regarding a change in flight paths either before or after the fact. To this day the only communication I have received on this matter is from my local MP, Mr Steve Irons.

I understand that WA is a "boom state" and that the increase in air traffic is obviously a flow on effect from this. However it does seem that in comparison to the all important operating requirements of the mining companies, the impact on local residents was considered to be of minor consequence. One would question why those companies who are so dependent on the airport cannot contribute to a fund to reduce the noise impact on affected residents.

I have seen suggestions that people should be provided with noise insulation rebates. Although I am a local resident, I am not a home owner and this would only be an effective remedy for myself and many others if our landlords choose to install the insulation.

I do not understand why Perth does not have an airport curfew similar to that imposed for Sydney airport. If we must have aircraft noise, at least have the decency to limit it to either the morning or night, not both.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours sincerely

Samantha Duddy