



The Hon Anthony Albanese MP

Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
Leader of the House



Reference: 02545-2013

The Hon John Murphy MP
Chair
Standing Committee on Petitions
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

19 JUL 2013

Dear Mr Murphy,

Thank you for your letter dated 24 June 2013 in relation to a petition recently submitted for the consideration of the Standing Committee on Petitions which opposes additional runways at Melbourne Airport as part of its 2013 Master Plan and requests the imposition of a curfew and a cap on the number of aircraft at the airport.

Every five years, Melbourne Airport is required to prepare a Master Plan that sets out the proposed development of the airport over the next 20 years. The airport's next Master Plan, which is currently undergoing public consultation to 21 August 2013, includes details of a proposed third runway.

Previous Melbourne Airport Master Plans, including the current 2008 Master Plan, available on the Melbourne Airport website <www.melbourneairport.com.au>, have foreshadowed an additional north-south or east-west runway (or both) as part of the airport's proposed development. This infrastructure will be in addition to the north-south and east-west runways already in operation.

In its submission of the draft Master Plan, Melbourne Airport is required to demonstrate due regard to comments received during the consultation period. I encourage the petitioners to participate in the public information events held by Melbourne Airport to keep informed on the proposals. Any formal submissions on the preliminary draft Master Plan can be made to the airport's Master Plan team on 03 9297 1597 or <community@melair.com.au>.

If the 2013 Master Plan is approved, the construction of the third runway will require a further major development plan process, including an environmental impact study and further public consultation.

Thank you for raising this matter.

Yours sincerely

ANTHONY ALBANESE