

SYDNEY AIRPORT COMMUNITY FORUM



10 July 2001

Senator Helen Coonan
Senator for New South Wales
Chair

The Hon Bruce Baird MP
Federal Member for Cook

Cr Mark Bonanno
Mayor of Ashfield

Mr Bill Bourke
Australian Air Transport Association

Cr Stephen Bowers
Mayor of Lane Cove

Mrs Kerry Chikarovski MLA
State Member for Lane Cove

Mr John Clarke
Upper North Shore Community

Mr Randolph Griffiths
Sydney Airport Forum Pty Ltd

Mr Kevin Hill
Kurnell Community

Cr Steve Holroyd
Rockdale Council

The Hon Joe Hockey MP
Federal Member for North Sydney

Cr Sue Hoopman
Bennelong Community

Mr Robert McClelland MP
Federal Member for Barton

Mr Michael Megna
Inner West Community

Mr John Murphy MP
Federal Member for Lowe

Ms Sandra Nori MLA
State Member for Port Jackson

Ms Maria Patrinos
CRAAN

Cr Bill Pickering
Mayor of Hurstville

Cr Fiona Sinclair King
Wentworth Community

Cr Tracie Sonda
Mayor of Sutherland Shire

Secretariat:
PO Box A301
Sydney South NSW 1235

[Freecall NSW]
Tel: 1800 812 069
Fax: 02 6274-7947
Email: sacf@dotrs.gov.au
www.sacf.dotrs.gov.au

The Hon John Anderson MP
Minister for Transport and Regional Services
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I am writing to convey the outcomes of the 30th meeting of the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) held on Friday 15 June 2001.

You will recall that in my letter of 24 May 2001 concerning the outcomes of the 29th meeting of the Forum I conveyed a resolution relating to formal environmental clearance for the Government's decisions concerning Badgerys Creek and the amendments to the slots scheme.

The Forum notes and appreciates that you are aware of and will meet the requirements of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the "Act") in relation to the proposed sale of Kingsford Smith Airport. However, what the Members are concerned to know is that within the scope of those obligations whether you intend to prepare a formal referral of these actions to the Environment Minister under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and, if not, the basis for deciding that such action is not required under the Act.

A key issue during the meeting was, once again, the occurrence of hours where the number of movements at the Airport exceeds 80. The Forum is particularly concerned that there has been (on 14 May 2001) an hour when there were 90 aircraft movements at the Airport. The information provided by Airservices Australia to the Forum on this particular hour has failed to satisfy Members since there appear to be a number of aircraft movements which occurred in the 8am hour that are unaccounted for. The Forum is continuing to pursue this issue and, at the request of Members, I will be writing to the Sydney Airport Compliance Committee seeking explanations for occasion where the cap has been exceeded.

The Forum was particularly concerned that more than 33 per cent of the movements at the Airport during May 2001 were to the north. While recognising that there will always be 'good' and 'bad' months which are largely dictated by weather, Members are frustrated that the LTOP targets are not nearly being achieved. Following a somewhat

lengthy debate at the meeting your Department undertook to carry out a study to scope the work that would be required to analyse in detail the reasons for the LTOP targets not being met and whether there are opportunities to achieve a closer approach to the targets.

The Forum is aware that the Airport's noise insulation program is likely to be completed within this financial year. This being the case, members are interested to know what will happen in future years if the number of movements at the Airport grows and the area covered by the ANEI contour expands. In particular, the Forum asked whether houses and public buildings that are currently outside the eligibility areas will receive insulation in the future if the changes in noise exposure take those buildings over the relevant ANEI eligibility exposure levels and how this will be accommodated if the insulation program is no longer in place.

You may be aware that when LTOP was being developed a number of submissions were made for Kurnell to receive some form of compensation due to the fact that the Plan is based on 55 per cent of the Airport's total aircraft movements being to the south. Residences in the Village are not eligible for insulation under the Airport's noise insulation program as they fall outside the Airport's 30 ANEI contour. These submissions were not successful in the past and members have requested that the Government once again examine this question.

I look forward to your response to these issues.

Yours sincerely

Signed by Senator Coonan 10 July 2001

Senator Helen Coonan
Chair