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Mr John Alexander, OAM, MP  
Chair, Sydney Airport Community Forum  
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development  
GPO Box 594  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

### Proposed study into aviation-related noise

Dear Mr Alexander

Thank you for your letter of 24 March 2015 regarding the potential interest of the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) in the National Acoustic Laboratories (NAL) performing a new aviation-related noise study.

NAL currently has a full research programme, including a very large and comprehensive longitudinal study into the outcomes of children with hearing impairment. This study and others addressing critical questions concerning optimal management practices for children born with hearing loss constitute a full programme of work for NAL. Establishing the evidence base to guide services for these children will remain our priority for some time, especially given likely future changes in service delivery options for hearing impaired children, including through the involvement of the National Disability Insurance Agency.

In view of these current research priorities I regret that NAL would not, at this time, be able to take on research of the type SACF is exploring.

Sincerely,

Harvey Dillon, PhD  
Director, NAL  
Adjunct Professor, Macquarie University

3 July 2015

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