



**Sydney Airport
Community Forum**

Meeting 1/2009

Conference Room A
Commonwealth Parliamentary Office
Level 8, 70 Phillip Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Friday, 20 March 2009

SUMMARY RECORD

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opening Remarks and Adoption of Agenda

The Chair opened the meeting and introduced himself, welcoming members and nominees. He acknowledged Mr Vic Smith's work as Chair of SACF and stated that he would like to write to Mr Smith thanking him for his contribution to SACF.

Action Item 01/01: The SACF Chair to write to Mr Vic Smith, on behalf of SACF, to thank him for his contribution as Chair of SACF.

The Chair noted the importance of SACF in dealing with issues associated with Sydney Airport and expressed his satisfaction in being able to deal with these through SACF. He also noted that as Parliament was sitting many of the members were absent.

As Capt. Murray Warfield has retired from his position in Qantas and therefore SACF, the Chair noted the change in the domestic industry representation to Capt. Rob Edney from Virgin Blue.

The chair explained that the main items to be discussed in the meeting were the SACF submission to the Government's 'Towards a National Aviation Policy' Green Paper and updates on Sydney Airport Corporation Limited's (SACL) Runway End Safety Area (RESA) project and Preliminary Draft Master Plan (PDMP).

The draft Agenda was accepted by the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Confirmation of Draft Meeting Summary Record

The Draft Summary Record from the previous meeting, Meeting 6 of 2008, was accepted without amendment.

AGENDA ITEM 3: SACF Submission on the Government's 'Towards a National Aviation Policy' Green Paper

3.1 Progress Report – Department

Ms Maureen Ellis noted that Green Paper submissions were due by 27 February 2009. She advised the meeting that to date, 219 submissions have been received by the Department covering a wide range of issues.

It is expected that the White Paper will be released in the latter half of 2009.

3.2 Presentation of the draft SACF submission on the Green Paper – Aviation Community Advocate (ACA)

The Chair briefly spoke about the expected broad structure of the submission and noted, in particular, the importance of a succinct SACF submission.

Action Item 02/01: The ACA to ensure the SACF submission to the Government's Green Paper is as succinct as possible.



Mr Tony Williams, the ACA, thanked members for their contribution in the drafting of the submission.

He spoke to a one page summary, outlining seven main issues to be included in the submission, which was tabled by the Chair prior to the meeting.

Mr Williams then handed the discussion over to the Chair for any comment and/or discussion.

3.3 General Discussion

A member raised the issue of community well being, an issue which he raised in the last meeting of SACF; noting that he believed Sydney Airport will not be closed in the event of a second airport being opened. This member noted his belief that communities should be compensated for the noise, in the form of local government monetary bonuses, or other ways. He noted that the funding for this compensation should come directly from the aviation industry and airports and that he wants SACF to examine the feasibility of this proposal.

Action Item 03/01: The ACA is to incorporate recommendations regarding community well being and local government compensation in the SACF submission to the Government's Green Paper.

Another member circulated a one page summary of key issues he believed important to be incorporated into the SACF submission. It included that aircraft noise needs to be minimised at its source, and that the Green Paper doesn't adequately address this.

The Forum agreed that aircraft management should be an integrated approach where minimising aircraft noise should be a top priority.

Discussion surrounded the need for a second Sydney Airport and the need for continuation of the Aviation Community Advocate role. The Forum discussed the possibility of establishing an aviation Ombudsman and how this position could relate to, or impact, on the role of the ACA.

Action Item 04/01: The ACA is to talk to Peter Fitzgerald, Bob Hayes and Maria Patrinos to develop words regarding an Aviation Ombudsman to be incorporated in the SACF submission to the Government's Green Paper.

Action Item 05/01: The ACA is to include the recommendation for the need of a second airport in Sydney.

The ACA explained that the SACF submission to the Green Paper recommends that the Government consultation, assessment and approval processes need to be reviewed, and improved where necessary. He noted that it includes the provision for the Minister to have a 'call in' power to trigger Major Development Plan/Master Plan processes should local councils have concerns with developments at airports. This recommendation also included the trigger for a repeated round of consultation should an airport need to rework any part of its Preliminary Draft Master Plan or Major Development Plans. The intent of the latter was to ensure transparency of any changes and allowance for further comments and/or agreement from the community.

The issue of aircraft noise measurement forecasts was raised along with questions related to the appropriateness of inclusion in the SACF submission to the Green Paper. It was noted that further

developments to the current ANEF system would have to take place before replacing it, ensuring a seamless progression to any enhanced long term replacement system.

Action Item 06/01: The ACA to incorporate in the SACF submission to the Government's Green Paper, a recommendation that more meaningful noise metrics be developed.

The Forum agreed that SACF should continue in its current form.

Action Item 07/01: The ACA to incorporate in the SACF submission to the Government's Green Paper, a recommendation that SACF continues in its current form.

The provisions of the noise levy legislation was discussed including that SACF make a recommendation to the Green Paper that this be revisited in order to provide enhanced insulation to those members of the community who are currently bearing the cost themselves.

Action Item 08/01: The ACA to incorporate in the SACF submission to the Government's Green Paper, a recommendation that the noise levy legislation be revisited in order to provide insulation to those members of the community who are currently bearing the cost themselves.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Update on the Preliminary Draft Master Plan (PDMP)

4.1 Status Report on the PDMP – SACL

Mr Rod Gilmour, SACL, informed members that the Draft Master Plan, with revised and endorsed ANEF contours, is now with the Minister for his consideration. He noted that all submissions received by SACL were also with the Minister, along with a detailed briefing on SACL's review process of those submissions.

Mr Gilmour also noted that SACL is now developing its Preliminary Draft Environment Strategy, which is about 'on airport' matters, and advised the Forum there will be a public exhibition in the third quarter of this year.

AGENDA 5: Update on the Runway End Safety Area (RESA) Project

5.1 Status report on the RESA project – SACL

Mr Rod Gilmour informed members, that in line with the Minister's Conditions of Approval, monthly RESA Status Reports continue to be produced with the fifth report circulated to members the week before the meeting. He noted that the target of 15 June 2009 for the partial re-opening of the east-west runway, is still in place.

5.2 Update on noise sharing outcomes during RESA – Airservices

Airservices informed members of a slight increase in numbers of complaints in the areas north of the airport, which it is monitoring closely. It was noted that these complaint statistics are consistent with the same period in previous years.

Discussion surrounded WebTrak, noting that the system appears to be fulfilling Government's objective of providing more detailed information to the public. Airservices stated that at any given minute, 600 to 700 people are using the site and this, as a consequence, has started to generate different types of enquiries. The public are more informed and familiar with aircraft noise issues/instances which allow Airservices to conduct more constructive investigations.

Concern was expressed by one member about the small number of take-offs to the east from runway 07 during the RESA project. Airservices advised that a total of 15 aircraft have departed from runway 07 during the project and that the complexities of the operation only permit these take-offs to occur on a very limited basis.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Airservices Issues

6.1 Implementation and Monitoring Committee (IMC) – Community Representative

Mr Kevin Hill, the community representative for the South, noted that the previous bias to Mode 9 (introduced due to concerns about an imbalance in runway use) was now over, with the weather dictating runway use.

The IMC has investigated alternative flight paths using the third runway, with aircraft turning directly to the east, in order to reduce the impact on other easterly flight paths. However, due to the complexities of establishing the operation it appears not to be an option.

The IMC has also revisited the 10 knot downwind operation. Due to safety reasons, industry has expressed concerns and will not use the operation.

Discussions at IMC have surrounded flights to Richmond regarding convergence on the Richmond SID. It was noted that instead of parallel operations flying out past Richmond, they converge onto Richmond. The IMC will analyse this further.

6.2 Update on Bundeena noise issues – Airservices

Airservices informed the Forum that Bundeena noise issues have been under investigation for 14 months, noting that the overflights are weather related and not operational requirements.

It was also noted that Airservices has written to the member for Cook explaining the issue.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Aviation Community Advocate (ACA)

7.1 Report from the ACA

It was noted that members had been provided with a copy of the ACA's latest progress report. The ACA informed the meeting that his contract with the Department finishes on 13 September 2009 and noted that he continues to liaise with the Sydney community.

Noise abatement procedures over Hunter's Hill were discussed and it was noted that further investigation into these procedures were needed.

Action Item 09/01: Airservices Australia to follow up and provide information to the Implementation Monitoring Committee and SACF regarding alleged low departures over Hunter's Hill.

Enquiries were raised about the future role of the ACA. It was noted that the ACA review was due to be held shortly and that discussion surrounding the future of the ACA role will take place at the next meeting.

Action Item 10/01: The SACF Secretariat to include the Aviation Community Advocate Review in the Agenda for discussion at the next SACF meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Current Issues

8.1 Update from ANARCS subcommittee – Member

Mr Kevin Hill explained to members the purpose of the ANARCS subcommittee and that future models of compensation were being examined, given that similar compensation models currently exist overseas. He noted his intention of the compensation being available to both Kurnell and the wider community, and the proposal that it be given to people on an individual as needs basis.

Action Item 11/01: Ms Patrinos and Mr Hill to liaise with Mr Ted Cassidy regarding inclusion of possible community compensation in the ANARCS project.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Other Business

Questions were raised about the impact of the global economic crisis on the aviation industry. SACL informed members that the February traffic figures have now been released, with movements down 7.8% on February last year. International movements are also down 9.7% noting that last February was a leap year which could explain the slight difference. SACL reported a 6% drop in overall movements (February 2008 compared with February 2009).

SACL also informed members that Singapore airlines released its February traffic figures for Asia which were down 20%, and that Sydney Airport's traffic figures remain strong when compared to airports in various European countries.

The Chair noted the general discussion earlier in the meeting about the ANEFs and Australian Standard and expressed a view that this issue needs to be revisited. It was noted that the Department will be reviewing this as part of its Green Paper process.

Mr Hill raised that daylight savings will soon cease, meaning that Kurnell will be subject to an extra hour of flights in the morning starting at 5am. He noted that the shoulder period flights come in at 5am instead of 6am and that Kurnell is the only area affected. He continued that a dispensation was given to allow international flights to come in earlier because of curfew restrictions in departing airports, and asked for clarification of where the flights are coming from.

Action Item 12/01: The Department to liaise with Mr Hill to provide information regarding curfew shoulder movements, in regards to international flights.

The Forum discussed various noise complaint data, noting that the statistics included in Airservices Australia's reports do not include complaints lodged with local government or Members of Parliament.

Action Item 13/01: The Department to write to state members and local governments around Kingsford Smith Airport reminding them of the central noise complaints service provided through the Noise Enquiry Unit.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Administrative Matters

10.1 Curfew Dispensation Report

10.2 SACF Correspondence

The Curfew Dispensation Report and all SACF correspondence was accepted and noted.

10.3 SACF Phone Line

10.4 SACF Web Site

Calls to the SACF phone line were noted and anticipated changes to the SACF web site were accepted and noted.

AGENDA ITEM 11: Next Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting of SACF will be held in late June or early July.



Action Items Arising from Meeting 1 – 20 March 2009.

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ATTENDANCE

Mr Chris Connelly Minister's Office

Members

B. Cotter	Chair, Community Representative for the North
M. Patrinos	Community representative for the West
K. Hill	Community Representative for the South
B. Nanva	Representing the Member for Lowe
K. Ford	Representing the Member for Watson
D. Cobley-Finch	Representing the Federal Member for Sydney
K. Pasterfield	Representing the Member for Kingsford Smith
S. Morgan	Representing the Member for Barton
B. Hayes	Representing the Member for North Sydney
E. Wulff	Representing the Member for Bennelong
P. McGrath	Representing the Member for Wentworth
T. Loveday	Representing the Member for Cook
D. Rodrigo	Representing the Member for Heffron
M. O'Sullivan	Representing the Member for Marrickville
T. Nardone	Representing the State Member for Sydney
T. Clapper	Representing the Member for Rockdale
K. Banfield	Representing the Member for Marrickville Council
P. Fitzgerald	Representing the Member for Botany Bay Council
S. McArdle	Representing the Member for Leichhardt
G. Ritchie	Representing the Member for Canterbury
K. Schreiber	Representing the Member for Sutherland Shire
T. Cassidy	Member for Ashfield
R. Edney	Member for the Australian Airline Industry
R. Gilmour	Representing Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd
W. Bennett	Representing the Board of Airline Representatives of Australia

Department of Infrastructure

M. Ellis	General Manager, Aviation Environment Branch
D. Southgate	Head, Aviation Environment Policy Section
J. Connor	Aviation Environment Policy Section, Secretariat

Advisers

T. Williams	Aviation Community Advocate
R. Dudley	Airservices Australia
R. Lee	Airservices Australia
P. Carroll	Airservices Australia
T. Plummer	Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd.
K. Alcott	Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd.



H. Knox Overnight Airfreight Operators Association
A. Sellick Qantas

Observers

K. Bartlett Office of the State electorate of Sydney

Apologies

J. Clarke Representing the Member for Bradfield