



The Hon John Anderson MP
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Transport and Regional Services
Leader National Party of Australia

Dr Brendan Nelson MP
Chair, Sydney Airport Community Forum
PO Box A301
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 2000

Dear Dr Nelson

Thank you for your letter of 23 February 2000 conveying the outcomes of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Sydney Airport Community Forum.

Firstly I would like to say that I found our recent meeting, when you and Minister Hockey came to see me on Sydney Airport matters, most useful. You can be assured that I am very sensitive to the need to ensure that the Airport's noise issues are effectively managed.

I have noted the Forum's opposition to the introduction of the Precision Runway Monitor (PRM) for landings at the Airport from the north. As you are aware, this matter is now one for the Environment Minister and I look forward to receiving his advice in due course following the conclusion of the Public Inquiry.

In your letter you raise a number of issues which I have taken up with Airservices Australia. In particular I am concerned about the continuing failure to meet the Long Term Operating Plan's (LTOP's) noise sharing targets and the apparent low priority being placed by Airservices on community consultation matters. You can see from my attached letter to Mr Pollard that these are both areas in which I expect to see an improved performance from Airservices.

You can also see from the letter that I have asked Airservices to examine, as a matter of priority, the issue of long haul departures to the United States off Runway 34L not accepting the Richmond Standard Instrument Departure.

I have separately written to you advising that I have accepted your nomination of Mr Megna to replace Mr Lidbetter on the Forum. I am aware of the very considerable amount of time and effort that Mr Lidbetter put into his work both on the Forum and on the Implementation and Monitoring Committee. The expertise that he built up certainly assisted us in gaining a better appreciation of the community's views on

aircraft noise matters. He made a very positive contribution to enabling the Government to implement its noise sharing policies as set out under LTOP.

I look forward to the Forum providing me with nominations for a community representative to replace Mr Lidbetter on the Implementation and Monitoring Committee.

Yours sincerely

*Signed by Minister
16 March 2000*

JOHN ANDERSON