



The Hon Anthony Albanese MP

Minister for Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development
and Local Government
Leader of the House

Reference: 02937-2010

Mr Barry Cotter
Chair
Sydney Airport Community Forum
c/- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development
and Local Government
GPO Box 594
CANBERRA ACT 2601

27 MAY 2010

Dear Mr Cotter

Thank you for your letter dated 16 April 2010 about outcomes of the meeting of the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) held on 19 February 2010.

I note SACF's interest in the draft Terms of Reference for a study to investigate the capacity for new navigation technologies to reduce the impacts of aircraft noise.

The Government will always take account of the views of residents in determining the most appropriate measures to minimise the impacts of aircraft noise on communities. In this regard, I note your advice that SACF will provide a proposal for an Aircraft Noise Affected Residents Compensation Scheme which has been developed by a SACF member.

I note also your advice about SACF members' interest in any outstanding funds collected under the Sydney Noise Amelioration Program. I am sympathetic with the views of SACF members on this issue. However, I am advised that collection of the noise levy was ceased by the previous Government on 30 June 2006 because all eligible residences and public buildings had been given the opportunity to be insulated and that unexpended administered funds were returned to consolidated revenue.

I appreciated the opportunity to come to SACF last Friday, and thank you and members for making time for me to speak, and for the ensuing discussion.

Yours sincerely

ANTHONY ALBANESE