

# Lizzie Blandthorn MP

STATE MEMBER FOR PASCOE VALE



**Aircraft Operations**  
**Aviation Environment Branch**  
**Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development**  
**GPO BOX 594**  
**CANBERRA ACT 2601**

## **SUBMISSION RE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE AIR NAVIGATION (ESSENDON AIRPORT) REGULATIONS 2001**

I write in opposition to proposed amendments 1 and 3 to the *Air Navigation (Essendon Airport) Regulations 2001*.

My opposition to proposed amendments 1 and 3 is principally based around the negative impact these changes will have on quality of life for residents residing in close proximity to the Essendon Airport, some of which are constituents of the Pascoe Vale district.

Further, I also hold concerns over the inadequate length of the community consultation period, as well as the lack of resources the Turnbull Coalition Government have committed to engaging the community on a matter of such significance.

I note that in reference to proposed amendment 3 in the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's public consultation paper on this matter, the Department state that, 'It is proposed at Essendon Airport that only aircraft with a noise level not greater than 90 decibels be permitted to land during the curfew'. According to a report published by the World Health Organisation, individuals exposed to noise above 40 decibels may experience adverse health effects such as sleep disturbances, environmental insomnia, and an increased use in sleep inducing drugs and medicines.<sup>1</sup> The report also claims that persistent noise stress increases the risk of cardiovascular disease, ischaemic heart disease and high blood pressure amongst individuals.<sup>2</sup>

Further, I understand that the community is still awaiting the release of the final report into the tragic plane crash which occurred at Essendon Direct Factory Outlet on 21 February 2017. This plane was scheduled to land at Essendon Airport. As such any changes to the operational or regulatory environment of the Essendon Airport should not be considered until the release of this report.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my submission on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'L. Blandthorn' followed by a horizontal line.

**Lizzie Blandthorn MP**  
**State Member for Pascoe Vale**

<sup>1</sup> World Health Organisation: Europe 2009, *Night Noise Guidelines for Europe*, Copenhagen, Denmark

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organisation: Europe 2009, *Night Noise Guidelines for Europe*, Copenhagen, Denmark

