
From: Jeremy Fox [jfox@foxgroup.com.au]
Sent: Saturday, 25 January 2020 9:53 AM
To: DPE PSVC Central Coast Mailbox
Subject: Submission Warnervale Airport (Restrictions) Act 1996

From
Mr Jeremy Fox
Local Resident
6 Merimbula Place
Woongarah NSW 2259

Dear Ms Goldberg and review committee,

I write this email regarding the public consultation for the Warnervale Airport Restrictions Act 1996.

Background

I am a local resident some 10 minutes' drive from the airport, as well as a local business owner, founding and leading a local chartered accounting firm based at Tuggerah which employs a team of 20 people. I have also been a member of the Warnervale Aero Club for approximately 15 years undertaking flying training and currently holding a recreational pilot's licence.

Personal Impact

Being a member of the local area club has such a positive impact on my personal and professional life. From a personal standpoint, the club is the only community and social group which I am currently a part of and also provides the only training for anything that I currently undertake outside of my professional career. As a firm believer in continually learning and developing and keeping the mind challenged, the club has facilitated this, as I am currently working toward my commercial pilots' licence.

I have enjoyed many of the benefits of having a local flying club close to home and work, including taking family, friends and colleagues for flights around our local area, showcasing the beautiful area in which we live. It has also provided a much-needed break from a stressful career, with the occasional local flight no doubt allowing me to maintain the balance required for mental health and longevity. As our firm continues to grow and service clients further abroad, with the further training I am currently undertaking, the plan is that this will allow easy travel to see clients and enable to business to remain predominately locally based, which for an area of historically higher unemployment, I see as a valuable contribution. Naturally I am also acutely aware of the direct employment provided by the aero club operating from the airport. The club and airport also provide much needed facilities to cadets (air league and scouts) as well as providing much needed tourism to our local area.

The Act

If the act as it currently stands, particularly with reference to the movement cap on light aircraft, if triggered, would undoubtedly cause the training arm of the aero club to cease at Warnervale and ultimately for the club itself to be less viable, as many of the clubs members are engaged in training activities. The number of movements per day required to be viable is much higher than the movement cap outlined in the act. As our accounting firm is the external accountant to the club, it is with a high degree of perspective and knowledge that this is stated. If this were to be the case, the personal impacts noted above would naturally cease. The closest training airport with similar facilities that I am aware of is of such a distance away that would make it impractical for me to be involved with.

My personal opinion on the act itself, is that it is an unnecessary instrument. Light aircraft have been operating from the airport for some 47 years and have enabled experiences like mine to be common place. Part of ongoing training and practice includes crosswind landings, glide approaches, as well as a multitude of other landing configurations, I have personally in one hour of practice made 14 movements.

I expect that some opponents of the airport generally would sight aircraft noise as a major issue which being a resident quite close the airport have never had an issue. I do not recall anytime where I have heard anyone complain about the noise from Warnervale airport. In fact my young children (3, 5 and 7) tend to run out of the house with excitement if ever they hear an aircraft overhead.

Summary

In my view the act is unnecessary and should be repealed. Failing this, my other recommendations would be to approve the current runway length and at the very least remove the movement restriction for aircraft under 5,700kg.

Kind Regards,

Jeremy Fox B.Com, CA

Director

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