
From: Anthony Tavella on behalf of DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox
Sent: Tuesday, 28 January 2020 9:44 AM
To: DPE PSVC Central Coast Mailbox
Subject: FW: Webform submission from: Review of Warnervale Airport (Restrictions) Act 1996

From: noreply@feedback.planningportal.nsw.gov.au <noreply@feedback.planningportal.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 24 January 2020 7:41 PM
To: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <eplanning.exhibitions@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Webform submission from: Review of Warnervale Airport (Restrictions) Act 1996

Submitted on Fri, 24/01/2020 - 19:41

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type: I am making a personal submission

First Name: Bruce

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Suburb/Town & Postcode: Jilliby 2259

Submission file: [webform_submission:values:submission_file]

Submission: I'm a CPL Helicopter pilot based on the Central Coast and Essendon. I operate various helicopters and have recently been helping out with deployment of other pilots to the fire grounds around NSW. I keep a machine at my property at Jilliby and have been using the fuel bowser at Warnervale to refuel as it's 3 minutes flight away. I've found that this is problematic with the 24 hour prior notice requirements as our deployments are often at short notice and can be difficult to plan around specific times due to weather conditions. My next closest fuel source is at Cessnock which is a good 25 minute flight away, it doesn't sound much but when you only have 150 minutes of usable fuel onboard it adds to planning and safety margins to conduct successful operations. I've even considered renting hangar space at Warnervale but the limitations of the notice period make this commercially unviable. This fire season can only be described as horrific and yet there's no exceptions or even consideration given for support services backing up our front line crew. It's these brave people that save lives and put themselves in immense danger and we can't assist them because of some ridiculous ruling. I've thought about starting a helicopter training school at the airport, to help up skill our future pilots that go on to provide the community much needed fire protection and emergency services but with the current situation it's just an impossible dream. I am willing to volunteer to do Angel flights but once again feel the added stress and lack of support shown to me by the council's airport manager (who's only doing his job). It's very difficult to explain to people in need that I can't assist them because of a fairly well orchestrated move by council to see the end of the airport full stop. I'm afraid making statements like we have Sydney, Newcastle and the new Badgerys Creek airport just don't make any commercial sense for our local community, I thought the idea was to grow our community and provide suitable infrastructure to support us, not tear it down and force us further afield?

URL: <https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/draftplans/exhibition/review-warnervale-airport-restrictions-act-1996>