



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
Mr Jeremy Hanson MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Petterson MLA

Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into drone delivery systems in the ACT

Submission Number: 054

Date Authorised for Publication: 27 February 2019

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA Committee - EDT](#)
Subject: Standing Committee on Economic Development - Inquiry into Drone Delivery System in the ACT.
Date: Tuesday, 19 February 2019 12:16:15 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

Submission: Inquiry into the drone delivery system in the ACT.

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
Postal Address: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Please note, I would like my submission to remain anonymous.

I would like to start by saying that at this point in time I am unaffected by the drone delivery system. However, close friends are directly affected (living under the drone flight path in Bonython), as well as my daughter and her family, who live in Gungahlin and will be affected if the 'permanent' base is set up in Mitchell. So on their behalf, I wish to make this submission.

- (1) a) - I have been informed that no consultation was made with local residents of Bonython when it was decided to hold the trials. Nor has the northern suburb residents been formally advised of the 'permanent' base to be located in Mitchell. In my humble opinion, the Project Wing is unwanted, anywhere in the ACT, or Australia for that matter.
- b) - (i) - Investment by this Google-owned company may well have been made, but at what cost to Territorians?
 - (ii) - I can't imagine a significant number of jobs will be created by this new enterprise. But I feel a number of jobs and business will be adversely affected by their introduction.
 - (iii) - I don't believe, or haven't heard about any significant collaboration with local industry and academic institutions having taken place. It certainly hasn't occurred with affected residents where the trial is now being conducted. In fact the direct impact on residents far outweigh the effects on local industry and academic institutions.
- c) - The extent of regulatory oversight appears to be non-existent. Project Wing answers to no one. As far as I know, they won't/haven't reported any trial results to anyone; not even the ACT Government; who agreed to the trial in the first place. They are unregulated. CASA, AMSA and EPA appear not to be involved, as any regulations imposed by these authorities on other individuals and industry seem not to apply to Project Wing. Which is totally irreprehensible.
- d) - The environmental impact I believe is significant.
 - (i) - the residents are disturbed by the very loud, incessant noise the drones make as they pass either overhead, or nearby. I have been told that over a 4-hour period there were 20 flyovers (10 deliveries) across/above their backyard. Some residents, I have been told about, go away to other areas (e.g. coast) to get some relief from the annoying noise.
 - (ii) - residents have reported to me directly that the birds have disappeared while the trial has been going. In fact, when there was a brief cessation of the trial a few months ago, the birds did return, but only until the trial started-up again.

(iii) - residents have told me of the neighbourhood dogs barking as the drones approach and don't stop till they are out of ear-shot. Obviously these drones disturb the dogs greatly. This not only adds to the noise of the drones themselves, but also upsets the residents to see and hear the distress of the dogs.

(iv) - I have no comment.

e) - There is NO way to improve the use of drone technology within the ACT. It wasn't asked for. It isn't wanted. I don't believe they serve any purpose other than at sporting venues and maybe individual's hobbies. In any other capacity they are non-essential. They are invasive, both in term of people's privacy and noise levels. They are totally abhorrent.

f) - It has been disclosed recently that during this drone trial there have been no delivery costs incurred by the consumers; they only pay for their order (e.g. coffee, etc.). So, in effect, there has been no economic evaluation of this trial. Hence the economic impact remains unknown by the ACT Government and the community.

f) - I have no comment.

Thank you for your consideration of my submission

