



Minister for Advanced Technology and Space Industries
Minister for the Environment and Heritage
Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for Urban Renewal
Manager of Government Business
Member for Brindabella

Obj # 20/03924

Mrs Giulia Jones MLA
Chair
Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety (Legislative Scrutiny Role)
ACT Legislative Assembly
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mrs Jones

I write in response to the Scrutiny Committee's Report 39, which was released on 7 February 2020. Having considered section 35(h) of the *Legislation Act 2001* and the Committee's principles, I wish to provide the following information to address the Committee's comment, and demonstrate the consistency of the proposed laws with the Scrutiny Committee principles:

1. The Amendment Regulation is consistent with the objectives of the *Environment Protection Act 1997*; specifically, it is consistent with the objective to protect and enhance the quality of the environment and prevent environmental degradation and risk of harm.
2. The Amendment Regulation does not unduly trespass on rights or liberties previously established by law as the amendments are a continuation of existing noise standards. They contemporise the noise standards to reflect community activity and associated noise levels in group and town centres, as determined by the independent studies commissioned to investigate noise levels in these areas.
3. The Amendment Regulation does not make rights, liberties or obligations unduly dependent upon non-reviewable decisions as the amendments relate only to noise standards.
4. The Amendment Regulation amends existing noise standards which are provided through the *Environment Protection Regulation 2005*.

Thank you for raising your concerns with me. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Environment and Heritage

ACT Legislative Assembly

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