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STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
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Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into drone delivery systems in the ACT

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VIA POST:

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Submission: INQUIRY INTO DRONE DELIVERY SYSTEM IN THE ACT

Personal Details:

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

I am writing to the Inquiry into the drone delivery system in the ACT, as a resident of Bonython where the Project Wing drone trial took place for the last 7-8 months.

When I first purchased my block of land in the new part of Bonython 12 years ago, I did so based on its quiet location fronting the bushland with serene outlook facing the Brindabellas.

In July 2018, the drones started and it was the beginning of my ruined weekends. I work damn hard during the week and use my weekends to sleep in, rest and recover from the week that was. Because I was fronting the bush, and one of the closest houses to where Project Wing were set up, I was in the direct flight path of every single drone on the weekends. We had close to 40 or 50 drones a day flying over our house..Now these aren't your recreational drones, they have 14 rotors, fly at up to 125 km per hour and sound like an F1 car when they fly over the roof tops. I could hear these drones over the TV inside of my house (even when I was watching the V8 Supercars).

They said they wouldn't start before 8am but i was being woken up by the drones as early as 7:20. My dogs also got scared and annoyed at these drones they were that noisey.

Where I live, we used to have lots of bird life, since the drones started, a lot of the wild life had disappeared, the pond used be teaming with waterbirds such as ducks, swans and pelicans even. Since the drones came, they all left. I used to wake up to the sounds of the

bush, now i was waking up to the sound of drones for people getting coffee and burritos delivered by drones.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not against drones, I think they totally have their place with emergency services and the technology is amazing. As a surfer, I support a group of guys in Sydney who run the drone shark app and patrol the beaches and alert life guards when they spot sharks in the water. These guys are doing a fantastic job and would greatly benefit from some government funding....

Using drones to deliver burritos and coffee and even pharmacy drugs from the chemist scares me due to the fact that the drones are not without their faults...hot drinks have been spilt over people's driveways that didn't even order them, drones have had "unscheduled" landings, incidents with cars and birds. What if drugs were delivered in the wrong place and kids playing in their backyards see them as lollies or my dogs eat them....

I paid a premium for the place I live in for it peaceful outlook. These drones totally wrecked that and just left me feeling angry that this was happening and I didn't even ask for it. I spoke to Project Wing many times to tell them my concerns..Who I'm sure were just looking at the dollars that were going to come in...I spoke to Mick Gentleman who didn't seem too concerned. Mark Parton didn't think there was a problem but at least he did a door knock to understand people's concerns.. Gai Brodtmann was the only one who listened and took what we were saying seriously.

These drones are now about to go to the North side of Canberra and service 5 Suburbs..I only hope that Project Wing and the Government get 5 times the backlash that we created here in Bonython...

Drones are awesome technology, but they're not wanted to litter our skies for deliveries to those that are too lazy to get off the couch and go and frequent the shops..

Thank you.

[REDACTED]
21 February 2019