



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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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: 106**

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**VIA E-MAIL:**

Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism

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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM**

**SUBMISSION: INQUIRY INTO DRONE DELIVERY SYSTEMS IN THE ACT**

**Personal Details:**

Name:	
Postal Address:	
Phone:	
Email: (if applicable)	

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

i would like to make a submission to the above Inquiry.

I am aware of the drone delivery trial that has been taking place in the ACT suburb of Bonython, by the American Google company Project Wing since July 2018.

I know people who live in Bonython who have been directly impacted by it. I have seen and heard videos of the drones as they fly over people's backyards and deliver goods. I am aware that their lives, the sanctity of their homes and amenity have been severely intruded upon for 6 months and that they are outraged and very angry and upset about this.

I am shocked that the ACT Government would instigate such a trial, to be conducted in the Australian Capital Territory. I am aware there is talk by the operator, Project Wing, of expanded operations early this year when no results of the Bonython trial have been made available to the public. It appears there may not even have been an evaluation of it undertaken, as the ACT Government allows Project Wing to self-report and self-assess.

I have heard the noise the drones make and I am aware that it has been measured at 80db!

It is an excessively loud, high pitched screaming noise which can be heard from all over the suburb and inside people's homes, sometimes waking them up from sleep. This is an appalling and unacceptable situation. People become unwell if they can't control their environments and are constantly subjected to excessively loud noise and intrusion into their lives.

Also the drones have cameras which are constantly recording downwards as they fly at 20 to 30m over people, as happened to my friends, who understandably feel indignant outrage about it. The public has no idea what happens to the film footage that is constantly being taken of them. I am now aware that it gets sent back to the USA. This also is an **outrageous invasion of people's privacy** and impinges on basic human rights, especially as the people of Bonython were not asked for their

permission or how they felt about it. There is the potential for such breaches of privacy and human rights to be illegal.

CASA has changed the usual Regulations that apply to drones to allow these Project Wing drones to fly within 5 m height and 2 m next to a person, without their permission. **This also is unacceptable!** It is exposing people to danger.

Drones can be blown by wind very easily on to people/children cars, buildings, power lines (causing bushfires) etc, and should not be allowed to fly so close to people because it is dangerous.

The ACT Government has told people it has no responsibility for the trial and has made no avenue of complaint available. (I am aware that 80% of Bonython residents rejected the drone delivery operation.). They told the many people who complained and have been distressed by it that they can complain to Project Wing.

The ACT Government, CASA, Airservices Australia, The Environment Protection Agency and the Federal Government all tell people that they are not responsible for the noise or privacy aspects of the Project Wing Bonython drone trial. This means that the excessively loud noise of the drones is unregulated, and no one is taking responsibility for the serious violation of people's privacy.

I am also concerned about the impact of the above on vulnerable people, such as the elderly and very ill. I believe the ACT Government is irresponsible and acting without integrity towards its constituents, putting money before people. I do not support the operation of drones over people's homes and in close proximity to them. The current regulations and compliance enforcements are inadequate to keep people safe and it is unconscionable to use people as guinea pigs in an experiment in corporate greed for international recognition.

Thank you for this opportunity to contribute to a significant social issue.



NAME

21 February 2019