

22 November 2019

Aircraft Operations
Aviation Environment Branch
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development
PO Box 594
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Sir/Madam

Queensland Airports Limited (QAL) is the owner and operator of the Gold Coast, Longreach, Mount Isa and Townsville Airports. QAL appreciates the opportunity to review and provide comment on the Air Navigation (Aircraft Noise) Regulations 2018 – Remotely Piloted Aircraft which has been released for consultation.

The commercial and private use of drones is becoming increasingly prolific throughout Australia and a regulatory framework that ensures the safety of civil aviation and manage the amenity in residential and recreational areas is essential.

We have provided our comments and/or offer recommendations below:

- Airservices has and is responsible for the management and monitoring of Australian airspace. Devolving the management of aviation noise to State/Territory/Local Governments is of concern given the wide range of legislative matters they currently regulate and the potential discrepancy in approach. It is therefore questionable if the relevant authority would have the means or ability to actively enforce any breaches.
- As acknowledged, State/Territory/Local Government regulations are not uniform across Australia. This is of particular relevance for Gold Coast Airport as we require cross-border consistency to ensure a standard and measured approach occurs.
- Gold Coast Airport would support powers being granted to the Federal and State/Territory Police to enforce and follow-up non-compliance.
- Is it intended the Department will be insisting the development of ANEF contours by aircraft operators around landing and take-off sites other than aerodromes currently covered by ANEF contours.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on the Air Navigation (Aircraft Noise) Regulations 2018 – Remotely Piloted Aircraft. Should you require further information, please don't hesitate to contact me via Jared Feehely, Manager Operations & Standards on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Brett Curtis
General Manager Operations & Service Delivery