

Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc

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Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow



For Immediate Release:

Campaign Against Second Airport Grows

Last week **No Badgerys Creek Airport Incorporated (NoBCA Inc)** hosted a meeting at Blacktown bringing several groups together to lift the campaign against Badgerys Creek Airport to a new level.

The 800+ member-strong Blue Mountains Conservation Society, along with the Community Action Alliance, Warrimoo Citizens Association and Blacktown District Environment Group all vowed to join other community groups and affiliate with NoBCA Inc. to launch mass activities against the unnecessary development of a 24/7 no-curfew airport in Western Sydney, contrary to the interests and wishes of residents.

They are united in their concern over this poorly planned thought-bubble that would be a second-rate disaster for us all, and the children of the future. This 'grab a head-line today' approval ignores concerns about added air and noise pollution, contamination of Sydney's water supply, and the loss of Blue Mountains' status as a UNESCO 'World Heritage Site' which protects vital diversity of native Australian flora and fauna.

All the talk about 'spreading the pain' and 'catering to added tourist demand' misses the point. We need to *reduce*, not expand, carcinogenic exhausts and carbon-wasting dependence on air travel for a better future overall.

Half of all air traffic currently at Mascot is domestic: to and from Melbourne or Gold Coast or Brisbane or Canberra.

There is no emergency to build an airport today. With the increase in plane sizes there has been little increase in the actual numbers of flights since John Howard put a stop to the unsuitable proposal previously. There is time to address the overall aviation needs of Australia with 21st

century alternatives. We need to be embracing high speed rail, which moves more people, faster, to more places, in comfort, safety and with access to Mobile Phones and the Internet while travelling.

The Blacktown meeting universally agreed that more had to be done by Western Sydney politicians, institutions and groups such as their own to oppose an Airport that is not needed or wanted.

For further commentary and information, please contact:

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