



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development

Noise impacts at Badgerys Creek

Potential noise impacts of a second Sydney airport have been an ongoing concern. The New South Wales (NSW) Government's long-standing planning restrictions around the Badgerys Creek site have largely protected it from incompatible residential and urban development.

The proximity of the proposed expansion of the existing Western Sydney Employment Area, to the north and east of the site will further ensure that development incompatible with an airport has been avoided.

As a result, a typical noise footprint for aircraft operating from a northeast runway at Badgerys Creek would affect approximately 3,900 residents. As a comparison, the equivalent noise footprint at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport affects around 130,000 residents.

At the same time, airlines continue to renew their fleets, investing in more fuel efficient and quieter aircraft, such as the Boeing 787 Dreamliner. Its noise footprint is around 60 per cent quieter compared to the aircraft types it will replace.

Will the airport at Badgerys Creek have a curfew?

In making a decision about the regulatory controls on any airport, the Government will need to make judgments about the economic value of less restrictive hours of operation and the impact on communities.

The merits of a curfew at Badgerys Creek will be carefully considered by the Government.

What suburbs will be affected by aircraft noise?

Precise approach and departure tracks will need to be determined based on expert advice from Airservices Australia and in consultation with airlines during the development of an airport proposal. If we assume that the airport runways would operate on a northeast/southwest orientation as proposed in the 1990s, air traffic would either approach or depart over the Western Sydney Employment Area to the north of the Commonwealth land at Badgerys Creek.

Indicative noise footprints for Badgerys Creek were published in the 2013 *A study of Wilton and RAAF Base Richmond for civil aviation operations*. It can be found at:

<http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/aviation/scopingstudy/index.aspx>.