AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
OVER 50 YEARS AS THE VOICE OF GENERAL AVIATION IN AUSTRALIA
ABN 95 004 274 588 • ACN 004 274 588

18 September 2009

The General Manager
Wollondilly Shire Council
PO Box 21
Picton NSW 2571

Dear Sir

We write to you to support the cause of aviation and the view that airports in your area of jurisdiction should remain open, unrestricted and available to all aircraft owners and pilots on reasonable terms and conditions.

Out of the advances of noise and emission suppression the 13,500 aeroplanes in Australia move about without drawing much attention to their operations. On the other hand the decentralised support structure with its wide skill base brings great benefit to all areas of the country.

An often-misunderstood fact about airports in your community is their contribution to the well being of Australian aviation. Many years ago the British aviation magazine Flight conjectured on the safety and general superiority of Australian aviation. Our airlines were and are the safest in the world, our military effective and our array of other aviation services from aero medical to training were efficient and of world class.

They considered equipment and training but an equivalent standard was available in Europe and North America. They came to the conclusion that it was an aviation culture engendered by the significant (especially in terms of population) contribution made by early civil and military pilots in the formative years of aviation and underpinned by access to aviation by all levels of society. In Australia, aviation was not the sole preserve of a particular socio-economic class.

Today there are men and woman of the Wollondilly Shire fixing or flying sophisticated, technically advanced aircraft who had their aviation spirit lit by access to the General Aviation aircraft that your airfields host. Do not underestimate your airports contribution or importance to our Australian aviation industry.

We therefore support the position of Carl Holden who has also contacted to you on aviation matters in general and the threat posed by a tower being constructed adjacent to The Oaks airstrip and indeed towers near any airfield.

Yours Sincerely
Allan Bligh

General Manager

ALL MAIL – PO BOX 26 GEORGES HALL NSW 2198 OFFICE – HANGAR 600 PRENTICE ST BANKSTOWN AIRPORT NSW 2200
TELEPHONE +61 (02) 97919099 FACSIMILE +61 (02) 9791 9355 EMAIL mail@aopa.com.au
International Council of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association Pacific Regional Office for IAOPA