



**Sydney
Airport**

The right future.
Starting now.

Environment Strategy 2013–2018





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The Sydney Airport Environment Strategy 2013 – 2018 provides the strategic direction for the environmental management of the airport for the five year period between 2013 and 2018. This is the fourth Environment Strategy prepared by Sydney Airport Corporation Limited.

Sydney Airport's first Environment Strategy was approved in 1999 and covered the five year period to 2004. The second Environment Strategy covered the five year period to 2010. The third Environment Strategy was to have covered the period 2010 to 2015. However, due to changes to the Airports Act 1996 in 2010 requiring airport environment strategies to be included in airport master plans, and due to a direction issued by the minister requiring that Sydney Airport submit a Draft Master Plan sooner than originally scheduled, the third Airport Environment Strategy has not been in place for the full five year period.

The Sydney Airport Environment Strategy 2013 - 2018 (the strategy) has been prepared in accordance with the environmental principles outlined in Sydney Airport's Environment Policy, the requirements of the Airports Act 1996 and Airports Regulations 1997 and is consistent with the Australian Government's Guidance Material for the Preparation of Airport Environment Strategies by Airport Lessee Companies (2009).

The purpose of the strategy is to:

- Ensure that all operations at Sydney Airport are undertaken in accordance with relevant environmental legislation and standards
- Establish a framework for assessing compliance at Sydney Airport with relevant environmental legislation and standards
- Promote the continual improvement of environmental management and performance at Sydney Airport and build on the achievements and goals of previous strategies

Once approved by the minister, the strategy is a legally binding document for the environmental management of operations at Sydney Airport. Sydney Airport and any person carrying out an activity at Sydney Airport must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the strategy is complied with. Compliance with the strategy is enforceable by the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development (DIRD) through its airport environment officers (AEO) or by the minister administering the Airports Act 1996 issuing proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia.

The Airports (Environment Protection) Regulations 1997 do not apply to noise or other pollution generated by an aircraft in flight or when landing, taking off or taxiing at an airport. These important issues are addressed elsewhere in Sydney Airport's Master Plan 2033 (see Chapter 14) and by laws such as the Air Services Act 1995, Air Navigation Act 1920, Air Navigation (Aircraft Engine Emissions) Regulations or Air Navigation (Aircraft Noise) Regulations 1984. These laws are administered by the Australian Government through the Department of Infrastructure and Transport or Airservices Australia. Contact details for aircraft noise and air emission enquiries are provided in the Useful Contacts section on page 8.

STRUCTURE OF THE STRATEGY



Chapter 1 of the strategy provides an introduction and background to Sydney Airport, including the location and history of the airport, and the airport's environmental context.

Chapter 2 provides a description of the strategy and its requirements and a background to the significant achievements made under the term of the previous strategies.

Chapter 3 provides a background to the environmental management framework at Sydney Airport, including legislative requirements, environmental responsibilities and an overview of Sydney Airport's environmental management system. An overview of Sydney Airport's development approval process is also presented.

Chapter 4 contains a specific strategic level environmental action plan (EAP) for each of the ground-based environmental aspects associated with the operation of Sydney Airport. The EAPs are the key reference tools for guiding environmental initiatives at Sydney Airport for the next five years. Eleven EAPs have been developed for the following aspects:

- Sustainability and environmental management
- Climate change and energy management
- Water management
- Air quality
- Ground-based noise
- Ground transport

- Biodiversity and conservation management
- Heritage
- Waste and resource management
- Soil and land management
- Spills response and hazardous materials

Each environmental action plan will contain:

Key objective(s)

The key objective(s) to be achieved during the five year strategy period, which will set the strategic direction for the EAP.

Background

- General information and overview of the subject as it applies to Sydney Airport, including the existing sources of environmental impact
- Relevant legislation and standards
- Links to other EAPs

Current management practices

- The management practices currently employed at Sydney Airport to address each of the identified existing sources of environmental impact
- If applicable, any studies, reviews or monitoring programs currently being undertaken (and their timeframes)



Achievements under the first, second and third Environment Strategies

- Listing the key achievements from implementing the previous three strategies

Five year action plan (2013 – 2018)

- The specific strategic level measures and actions that Sydney Airport intends to carry out in order to achieve the key objective(s) during the five year strategy period and beyond (and their timeframes). These measures and actions aim to further the progress and achievements made under the first three environment strategies, thereby striving towards continual improvement of Sydney Airport's environmental performance. If applicable, any proposed additional studies, reviews or monitoring programs to be undertaken during the strategy period (and their timeframes) are referred to in this section
- Actions proposed within this strategy include:
 - Those actions that have not yet been implemented from the previous strategy as the strategy was not in place for the full five year period
 - New actions developed due to recent studies and plans
 - New actions required to address potential environmental issues associated with implementation of the Master Plan

Each measure or action item has a defined priority, established by having regard to its risk, status of current management and the availability of resources. The categories are:

- **A – short-term actions:** These are actions to be completed within three years of approval of this strategy
- **B – long-term actions:** These are actions to be completed within five years of approval of this strategy
- **C – ongoing actions:** These are actions with rolling, regular timeframes or where action is dependent on external factors

Sydney Airport intends to carry out those actions that have not yet been implemented from the previous strategy within the timeframe committed to within the previous strategy.

Key performance indicators

- These will enable continuous improvement during the strategy period to be measured and demonstrated

Chapter 5 details the stakeholder consultation undertaken during the preparation of the Environment Strategy.

Chapter 6 details the references, acknowledgements and abbreviations.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Comments and queries regarding environmental performance and management at Sydney Airport are welcomed at any time.

For issues relating to environmental management at Sydney Airport or the contents of the strategy, please contact:

**Environment Department
Sydney Airport Corporation Limited**

Locked Bag 5000

Sydney International Airport NSW 2020

Tel: 02 9667 9111

For information on the Australian Government's airport and aviation-related legislation, policy and guidelines, contact:

Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development

GPO Box 594

Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: 02 6274 7111

Fax: 02 6274 7614

Web: www.infrastructure.gov.au

For enquiries in relation to compliance with environmental legislative requirements, contact:

Airport Environment Officer

AQIS Building

Level 1, 1 Crewe Place

Rosebery NSW 2018

PO Box 594

Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: 02 8344 3115

Fax: 02 8344 3144

For information on airport related building and development control, contact:

Airport Building Controller

AQIS Building

Level 1, 1 Crewe Place

Rosebery NSW 2018

PO Box 594

Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: 02 8344 3113

Fax: 02 8344 3144

Comments or enquiries regarding aircraft noise or aircraft air emission issues or issues regarding aircraft releasing fuel during flight should be directed to:

Airservices Australia

To contact the Noise Complaints and Information Service phone 1800 802 584 (free call) or 1300 302 240 (local call)

or write to:

Noise Complaints and Information Service

PO Box 211

Mascot NSW 1460

Email: ncis@airservicesaustralia.com

Fax: 02 9556 6641

Complaints concerning noise caused by aircraft engine ground running should be directed to Sydney Airport Corporation Limited.

For community consultation and issues related to aircraft noise and the Sydney Airport Long Term Operating Plan, contact:

Sydney Airport Community Forum

Sydney Airport Community Forum

c/o Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development

Aviation Environment Branch

PO Box 594

Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: 1800 812 069 (free call NSW)

Fax: 02 6274 7463

Email: sacf@infrastructure.gov.au

Web: www.sacf.infrastructure.gov.au

