

**BEFORE INDEPENDENT HEARING COMMISSIONERS
APPOINTED BY THE MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

UNDER

the Resource Management Act
1991

IN THE MATTER OF

submissions by Glentanner Airport
Limited and Glentanner Station
Limited on Plan Change 30 to the
Operative Mackenzie District Plan

**LEGAL SUBMISSIONS ON BEHALF OF GLENTANNER AIRPORT LIMITED
AND GLENTANNER STATION LIMITED**

PLAN CHANGE 30

Dated: 16 May 2025

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May it please the Panel:

1. These submissions are made on behalf of Glentanner Airport Limited and Glentanner Station Limited (**Glentanner**) in relation to the proposed Plan Change 30 to the Mackenzie District Plan.

Airport Activities in the Glentanner Special Purpose Zone

2. The recommendation to restrict the frequency and hours of operation of rocket powered aircraft airport activities in the Airport Area¹ is opposed.
3. The purpose of Local Government is to enable democratic local decision-making and action on behalf of communities and promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future.²
4. The purpose of the Resource Management Act 1991 is to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources³.
5. The airport at Glentanner is a well-established physical resource which has had significant investment made into it. The airport is a key part of the aviation and infrastructure in Te Manhuna/the Mackenzie District and supports the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of its communities⁴.
6. **Airport** means any defined area of land or water intended or designed to be used, whether wholly or partly, for the landing, departure, movement, or servicing of aircraft.⁵
7. Airport activities are most appropriately carried out in airports.
8. Aircraft and airport activities are noisy.

¹ Page 35, paragraph 205, Section 42A Report by Nick Boyes

² Section 10 Local Government Act 2002

³ Section 5 Resource Management Act 1991

⁴ Evidence of Ross Kenneth Ivey

⁵ Section 2 Resource Management Act 1991

9. The noise generated by the Dawn Aviation rocket powered aircraft activities at Glentanner is comparable to that of a helicopter.⁶
10. Airport activities at Glentanner, including unmanned flights, and rocket powered aircraft⁷, must comply with Civil Aviation rules, including rules relating to noise. Before an aircraft is licenced to fly in New Zealand it is assessed on the volume of noise it produces.
11. The Dawn Aviation rocket powered airport activities carried out at Glentanner have been approved by the Civil Aviation Authority. They have also been deemed acceptable by the Department of Conservation.⁸
12. The notified version of Plan Change 29 (Noise) contains a specific rule for the GSPZ. “**NOISE-R12** Noise Associated with Airport Activities and Airport Support Activities Airport Area within the GSPZ Activity Status: **PER**” This is the same as the Noise Rule for AIRPZ.
13. The general conclusion of the Section 42A Report Writer on the Airport Noise provisions of Plan Change 29 is “I consider that these rules appropriately manage the use of aircraft in different zones, and for the AIRPZ, align with the intended purpose of the zone (in AIRPZ-O1) to provide for the efficient use and development of airport zoned land and facilities to support the economic and social well-being of Te Manahuna/the Mackenzie District.”
14. This statement applies equally to the use of aircraft and airport activities in the Airport Area of the GPSZ.
15. The Outer Space and High-altitude Activities Act 2017 governs space regulation in New Zealand and its “key purpose is to facilitate the development of New Zealand’s space industry and provide for its safe and secure operation”⁹.

⁶ Letter from Dawn Aviation appended to Evidence of Ross Kenneth Ivey

⁷ Parts 101 and 102 Civil Aviation Act 2023

⁸ Letter from Dawn Aviation appended to Evidence of Ross Kenneth Ivey

⁹ New Zealand Space and Advanced Aviation Strategy 2024-2030 (September 2024)

16. All high-altitude and space aircraft activities must be carried out under a licence issued under this Act. This is not a function of Local Government.
17. The supersonic flight of the Dawn Aviation aircraft takes place at high altitude and is inaudible at ground level¹⁰.
18. Should the Council's proposal to combine the current Glentanner Airport Zone into a Glentanner Special Purpose Zone lead to a derogation of airport activity rights - which the Section 42A Report recommendation would do, Glentanner seeks that the existing Glentanner Airport Zone is removed from the Glentanner Special Purpose Zone and becomes a Special Purpose Airport Zone (AIRPZ) with all its attendant Rules as recommended.
19. The recommendation to restrict airport activities at Glentanner would not promote the efficient and sustainable use and development of airport land and facilities to support the economic and social well-being of Te Manahuna/the Mackenzie District.

Lawfully Established Farming Activities

20. The farming activities carried out within the proposed Glentanner Special Purpose Zone are lawfully established¹¹.

Table

21. A Table setting out Glentanner's response to the Section 42A Report Writers' recommendations regarding AIRPZ, GSPZ and Noise in the GSPZ is appended to these Submissions.

Nicola Hornsey

16 May 2025

¹⁰ Evidence of Ross Kenneth Ivey

¹¹ Evidence of Ross Kenneth Ivey