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## **SECTION 131 FORM**

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## Planning Appeal Onine Observation

Online Reference NPA-OBS-002981

Online Observation Details		
Contact Name Keith Glatz	Lodgement Date 14/12/2023 14:06:37	Case Number / Description 314485
Payment Details		
Payment Method Online Payment	Cardholder Name Rachel Roberts	Payment Amount €50.00
Processing Section	*******************	
s.131 Consideration Required Yes — See attached 1	31 Form Date	/A — Invalid
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December 14, 2023

The Secretary
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902
Ireland

Re: Dublin Airport / Fingal County Council – An Bord Pleanála Case reference: PL06F.314485 / Planning Authority Case Reference: Fingal County Council F20A/0668

Dear An Bord Pleanála,

Airlines for America (A4A),<sup>1</sup> on behalf of its members, appreciates the opportunity to comment on the additional information submitted to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) by the Dublin Airport Authority (daa) in relation to the North Runway appeal. American, Delta, United and our associate member, Air Canada, provide combination services from North America to Dublin Airport (DUB); while JetBlue will begin service to DUB in March 2024. FedEx and UPS provide extensive all-cargo and express services connecting DUB to both North America and Europe. On behalf of our members, we would like to voice our strong support for implementation of the proposed noise quota system (NQS) at DUB.

A4A members are strongly committed to reducing noise impacts on local communities. We have a strong vested interest in the creation of a night-time regulatory regime that sets out clear rights and responsibilities as well as strikes a balance between the interests of all stakeholders, including local communities, airlines, shippers, passengers, employees and the broader Irish economy. DUB is a key driver in the Irish economy. This was highlighted in the daa's recently published Economic Impact Study 2023 which noted that DUB provides a €9.6 billion GVA (gross value added) contribution to the Irish economy.² A 2020 study conducted by York Aviation³ noted that DUB handled 90 percent of Ireland's air freight annually, which accounted for 35 percent of Ireland's trade by value. Of that freight, 38 percent flew at night, accounting for roughly €19 billion in imports and exports.

A4A would like to express our support for a grant of permission for the development in line with the Aircraft Noise Competent Authority (ANCA) determination. By way of background, ANCA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A4A is the principal trade and service organization of the U.S. scheduled airline industry. Members of the association are Alaska Airlines, Inc.; American Airlines Group, Inc.; Atlas Air, Inc.; Delta Air Lines, Inc., Federal Express Corporation; Hawaiian Airlines; JetBlue Airways Corp.; Southwest Airlines Co.; United Holdings, Inc.; and United Parcel Service Co. Air Canada is an associate member.

https://www.dublinairport.com/docs/default-source/corporate/economic-impact-study-draft-3.pdf?sfvrsn=cb3175b6 8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.dublinairport.com/docs/default-source/north-runway-downloads/ftai-economic-impact-of-cargo-night-flying-2020.pdf

published its decision regarding appropriate noise mitigation and operating conditions to apply to DUB in June 2022. These proposals include replacing Planning Condition 5 (65 flight cap) with an Annual Noise Quota for the full night period (23:00 to 07:00), that the North Runway shall not be used for takeoff or landing between 00:00 and 05:59 (from 23.00 to 07.00 previously), and an introduction of a noise insulation grant for the affected communities.

A4A supports the NQS for individual flights as it offers airlines with needed operational flexibility compared to a fixed movement limit for managing airport noise. Since a movement limit does not differentiate between quieter and noisier operations, the qualitative benefits of such an approach are inherently less than those of the proposed NQS, which will provide a clear data-driven framework in which the airport, affected communities and carriers can manage operations.

A4A would like to highlight the importance of a timely ABP decision in this proceeding. This case has been pending within the planning system for three years and as noted earlier, the airport and the night-time use of the runway is of strategic national importance.

We thank you for your kind attention. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

Keith Glatz

Senior Vice President, International Affairs

Airlines for America

1275 Pennsylvania Ave, NW

Suite 1300

Washington, D.C. 20004

**United States of America**