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To: <u>manstonairport@pins.gsi.gov.uk</u>; <u>Manston Airport</u>

Cc: Richard Price

Subject: No to Manston Airport

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Importance: High

## Good afternoon

I find myself writing yet again to oppose the re-opening of Manston Aiport, hopefully this will be the last time and this awful saga will soon be rejected once and for all and I, and the rest of the residents who will be affected by this airport will finally be able to get on with our lives and can stop worrying about a 24/7 freight airport on our doorstep. I strongly object to the ridiculous plans for the former Airport. I live a stone's throw from the end of the runaway and I do not want a 24/7 freight airport, recycling centre, and I especially do not want ANY night flights.

I fail to see why RSP (Riveroak) keep setting up new companies, the first time we heard of them they were an American Real Estate company, so what would a Real Estate company want with an old airport in England?! If RSP really want Manston airport so badly, why didn't they purchase it when it was up for sale on the open market, and it was up for sale for a long time! I don't understand why they didn't do what was asked of them when Thanet District Council was prepared to try a CPO on the site! I do not trust anything that comes from this American company, registered in Belize, headed up by the struck off solicitor Tony Freudmann (who has had a string of failed attempts at running airports - Manston already being one of them)! I also cannot understand how our 2 local Thanet MPs can support this (one owns an airline, and the other has stated that he has "considerable concern for the quality of the air that my six year old grandson Soren will breathe during the course of his young life" which the MP said on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018. His young grandson lives 9.5 miles from Heathrow, and I find it very strange that he doesn't seem to care about the quality of air that his constituents would breathe, despite them living a lot closer than 9.5 miles from Manston)!

When Infratil was running the former airport, I was often woken throughout the night by planes flying in and out (which I assume was for humanitarian relief, as they weren't allowed night flights). It really wasn't nice to be woken from my sleep by a freight aeroplane sitting on the runway for up to 15 mins with engines running, until full throttle for take off, while the vibrations made my house shake and rattle around me, with the smell of aviation fuel filling my bedroom. My family were wide awake in the night, unable to go back to sleep. This did not allow us to function properly the following day, it simply is not fair on us to go back to this. I dread to think what my quality of life will be like if this stupid plan of reopening the former airport goes ahead. It is forecast to handle at least 7 aircraft movements throughout each night, with 70% taking off towards Herne Bay, which means 70% will be sat at the end of my garden for up to 15 minutes, each with engines running before I'm lucky enough to then hear the full throttle as the plane eventually takes off, polluting my air, and this is without the 30% of aircraft movements that I will also hear and smell when they fly in to land from over Ramsgate. When the former owners Infratil wanted night flights they stated at the time it was the only way for this airport to make money. Thanet District Council commissioned Aviation Specialists 'Parsons Brinkerhoff' and had a public consultation in 2012 regarding night flights, the residents clearly voted against them, and Parsons Brinkerhoff covered the World Health Organisation's assessment of the impacts of disturbed sleep, and the impact on Thanet's

tourist industry, which would not have been good for the residents of this built up area. I find it unbelievable that RSP have put in for so many night flights. In 2017 the neighbouring town of Sandwich had one resident that complained about the church bells ringing throughout the night, Dover District Council served a night-time noise abatement order under section 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 against the church, and the decibel levels of the bells had to be reduced to below the World Health Organisations limit between 11pm-7am. Will this apply to RSP and their numerous freight night flights, which will be many decibels louder than church bells?!

I can see the runway from my garden, (that's how close I live) and I do not want to go back to having planes sitting on the runway with their engines running for up to 15 minutes day or night, whilst my bungalow is suffering from the vibrations that these aircrafts cause, whilst damaging the health of my family due to the polluting fumes that we will be constantly breathing and the unbearable noise created by these aircraft. If RSP and their supporters think for one moment that people will get used to this many times throughout the night or day, they are seriously mistaken and I suspect (unlike me) that they have never directly experienced anything like this before.

RSP have clearly stated in one of their fancy brochures headed 'RSP Manston Airport 2017 Consultation Overview Report' that was sent to my address in June 2017, on pages 36 & 37 that 'Preliminary findings show that noise from earthworks and the use of equipment and machinery during the construction phase has the potential to give rise to significant effects at properties within 200m of the associated activities' it goes on to list my area as well as others! It goes on to state 'Airspace routes are preliminary at this stage, however initial assessment shows that aircraft air noise has the potential to significantly affect' and lists my road amongst others. 'The extent of the impact from night-time aircraft movements will extend further to also encapsulate receptors', again it lists my area amongst others. 'An aircraft noise insulation scheme will be offered as part of the Project to help avoid significant adverse effects of health and quality of life', they forgot to mention in their glossy brochure that they will not cover the full cost of the insulation (no amount of insulation to my home will stop me from hearing the aircrafts - certainly wont be anything like hearing church bells) and that there are no provisions for ventilation of any building! I look forward to hearing what will they do about the constant vibrations and damage that my home will suffer? What will they do regarding my health and that of others, with constant aviation fumes being breathed into our bodies and being sleep deprived (I and many others will simply not be able to hold down a job) because of their business inappropriately operating in a built up area? This would become unbearable and so detrimental to the quality of our lives. All cons without one pro!

If this company are so set on buying and running a 24/7 freight airport, why are they not looking at a more central location within England, closer to motorways and distribution centres, and why aren't they looking at airports that are currently up for sale, it doesn't make any sense as to why they are so desperate to buy Manston. The two main motorways closest to Manston are the M2 and M20, both of which are over 20 miles away. Both of these motorways filter onto the M25, we already need a new crossing at Dartford, why on earth would somebody want to add more traffic to these already congested roads, when they could purchase an airfield north of the M25! What will happen if we leave Europe without a deal or the French are blocking Calais port and tunnel again, Operation Stack will be in place on the M20 and M2, so RSP would like to add more lorries to these motorways - I really couldn't write a better fairy story!

I don't relish the idea of dirty old aircraft on their last legs flying in over Ramsgate or Herne Bay, to be dismantled at Manston. Also why have RSP applied to use planes that have been banned from Heathrow and Gatwick because they are too noisy? Why would

anybody want to fly dirty, old and noisy aeroplanes over 2 large towns?! I also do not relish the idea of constant freight planes flying in by day and (especially) night.

This airport has been run by several companies since the RAF left, none of which made a profit as it's clearly in the wrong location! RSP originally stated thousands of jobs will be created by this amazing airport, the last report I read from Tony Freudmann this figure has now changed to hundreds, that's a mighty big difference! I have previously worked for 2 separate Ferry Companies, I know that cargo doesn't require many staff, unlike the passenger side of an organisation, but seeing as this is just cargo at the beginning, a hand full of jobs simply isn't good enough for all the cons against this Freight Airport e.g. we will lose more jobs in the tourist industry. Passenger flights have been tried many times at Manston, most failed miserably, as this airport doesn't not have a large enough cachement area,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the area is surrounded by sea.

Since this airport closed in March 2014, and RSP started stiffing around with their ridiculous plans, my plans for my property (which I have worked hard for) have been put on hold, I would like to have a small extension, but I cant afford to run the risk of injecting more money into my property when nobody would buy it as it's so close to the runway, unless I gave it away. It will be a living hell for me and future owners with the constant smell of aviation fuel, never being able to have doors and windows open or never being able to sit in the garden (which would be a nightmare in itself especially during hot summers like the one we have just had), not being able to enjoy my home from the inside either as the worry of what the constant vibrations, shaking and rattling are doing to it, surely my family, neighbours and I should not have to experience living like this. You would really have to experience it yourself to truly understand the impact that one aircraft has on my property, god knows what 83,000+ movements a year will have, I truly dread to think. I find it absolutely shocking that RSP have been allowed to stop Stone Hill Park's (the legal owners of the former airport) development plans for nearly 5 years, and also our council have struggled to complete Thanet's local plan, our beautiful Isle of Thanet could end up with thousands more houses being built on top of the 17,000+ that are scheduled to be built here, all because of this American company's spurious plans.

I was very disappointed that the Preliminary meeting and hearings on 9-11<sup>th</sup> January 2019 were being held at the Winter Gardens in Margate, surely these should have been held somewhere in Ramsgate as this is the area that this airport will badly effect, I would have loved to have attended but was unable to get there.

Riveroak's plans truly are madness in such a large, built up area, please do not allow them to come to fruition.

Kindest regards
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