

**18/790 ACT Government Submission to the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism Inquiry into Drone Delivery Systems in the ACT**

Summary of Impacts
Making a submission to the Standing Committee will not directly involve any triple bottom line impacts. The summary below indicates possible social, economic and environmental impacts of the regulation of drone delivery systems. Drone delivery systems have the potential for justice and rights impacts, however mechanisms exist to manage these impacts. Drone delivery systems have potential for positive economic and environmental impacts.

Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue - neutral and Green - positive.

**Social**

<b>Justice and rights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Commonwealth Government has exclusive power to regulate drones and activity associated with postal delivery services. Where a Commonwealth law is identified as presenting a complete statement of the law, sometimes expressed as ‘covering the field’, the power to legislate is the exclusive power of the Commonwealth with respect to that topic. ACT laws must be capable of operating alongside any relevant Commonwealth law to have legal effect and must not seek to legislate on an area which the Constitution provides as a head of legislative power for the Australian Parliament.</li> <li>Some areas of ACT law apply to drone delivery, as they would apply to any other activity in the ACT, these include: aspects of workplace safety law, fair trading, criminal law, and tort law.</li> <li>The Australian Privacy Principles (APPs), which are contained in schedule 1 of the <i>Privacy Act 1988</i> (Privacy Act), outline how most Australian Government agencies and some private sector, not-for-profit organisations, and some small businesses (collectively called ‘APP entities’) must handle, use and manage personal information.</li> <li>The current trial operator is bound by the terms of the section 303 licence to comply with the provisions of the <i>Privacy Act 1988</i> (Privacy Act).</li> </ul>
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**Economic**

<b>Productivity and Innovation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is the potential to foster innovation, promote business investment in Canberra, and capitalise on the reputational advantages of being a city that engages with innovation and research.</li> <li>Cities that are open to and engage with disruptive technologies and new business models can generate new economic development opportunities and returns. Further benefits include high value employment and related trial expenditure.</li> </ul>
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**Environmental**

<b>Greenhouse gas emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modelling provided by Wing suggests that drone delivery could reduce annual CO<sup>2</sup> emissions by 8,000 tonnes due to fewer road vehicle deliveries.</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There have been community concerns regarding the distinctive noise generated by drones. The ACT Government acknowledges Wing’s ongoing refinement of both their technology and business model in response to issues and concerns raised by service users, community members, businesses and Commonwealth and ACT Government agencies. It is also noted alternative delivery modes generate noise at a commensurate or greater level.</li> </ul>