



PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate use

HALF TIME SCORE: AVIATION ONE, THE ENVIRONMENT NIL

NoTRAG today slammed the government's decision to expand Heathrow and vowed to continue the campaign against expansion until the bitter end.

Christine Shilling, NoTRAG Press Secretary says, "The Sunday Business got it right in 2003!¹ It's to be full steam ahead for the construction industry then - adding capacity equivalent to the size of Gatwick on to the rapacious Heathrow Airport.

After six years, thousands of pounds, a sham consultation and data manipulation the Government has finally given the green light for the 3rd runway and 6th Terminal.

This is despite the irrefutable evidence that the devastating social and environmental effects of further expansion at Heathrow Airport outweigh the unproven case for expansion on economic grounds."²

NoTRAG Chair Geraldine Nicholson commented on today's decision: "The Government has not listened to the views of the people; once again it is siding with big business. Our support has come from all quarters and continues to grow every day; this decision will only intensify the determination of the opposition to expansion at Heathrow."

NoTRAG says when the rights of the aviation industry are more important than human health and take away our rights to breathe clean air and get a good night's sleep then the political process has failed. And when passengers' rights are seen as more important than the rights of ordinary working people to live in communities of their choice in homes they've paid for this is a breeding ground for civil unrest.

Christine Shilling says, "These communities are ours. They do not belong to a Spanish construction company. This is the wrong decision. The Government had a chance to set an example - to constrain aviation demand - it has failed.

This is NOT the end. It is simply the end of the beginning."

¹ *Sunday Business* 29 June 2003: http://www.accessmylibrary.com/coms2/summary_0286-8904973_ITM

'The Business has learned that key Treasury officials have decided to support a third runway at Heathrow as top priority on economic grounds,'

² CE Delft report: November 2007