

(Name) Member of Parliament (Constituency)
(Street Address) (City, Town) (Postal Code)

(Date)

Dear (Mr. Ms. Mrs.) (Surname)

I am writing as a constituent of yours to bring environmental concerns regarding the construction of an airport in Pickering to Ottawa's attention.

Durham Region and the City of Pickering have been advocating for a new airport to be built on 9,000 acres of prime farmland in Pickering. The construction of an airport would lead to the unnecessary destruction of a sustainable food source needed by future generations, as well as hundreds of millions of dollars in lost opportunities every year. It would also result in countless environmental and public health issues, which should be of great concern to you.

We have just a decade to take meaningful action to circumvent the effects of climate change. Promoting the building of a new airport in this time of crisis is a blatant refusal of the facts laid out before us. The airline industry has been wreaking havoc on the climate for decades. The international Air Transport Action Group has concluded that the industry consumes around 1.5 billion barrels of Jet A-1 fuel annually. Airports enable a sector that is responsible for massive carbon emissions.

The concept of a "green airport" has become very popular in recent years, as we are forced to face the disastrous effect which climate change will have on our society. This concept is a myth. The aviation industry touts sustainable alternative fuels to solve the environmental damage caused each year by air travel. However, such solutions are often no better for the environment than the kerosene used in jet fuel today. The growing of alternative fuel crops also leads to a decrease in the supply of essential foods which will only become more important as our population continues to grow. In the grand scheme of things, aiming to "offset" the damage caused by the airline industry is nothing more than a band-aid for the potentially catastrophic problems our nation and the world are facing. These small-scale solutions from the airline industry will not help avoid a total climate crisis, and our representatives should not enable this them.

If this airport were to be built, all that would separate it from a national park would be a miniscule airport fence. The airport would pollute the surrounding environment, and do severe damage to the park's wildlife, greenery, air, soil, and water bodies.

I am writing to urge you and your fellow MPs to commit to preserving the Pickering Federal Lands, as the destruction of this great source of food and water would go against Canada's noble commitment to fight climate change.