APPENDIX 14

Aeronautical Impact Assessment and Obstacle Lighting Review, 2009

The Ambidji Group Pty Ltd

FINAL REPORT

AERONAUTICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND OBSTACLE LIGHTING REVIEW

BOCO ROCK WIND FARM NEW SOUTH WALES

Project Number J0303

Prepared for WIND PROSPECT CWP PTY LTD



8 October 2009



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Suite 11, 622 Ferntree Gully Road, Wheelers Hill, VIC, 3150, Australia

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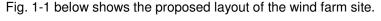
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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ambidji Group Pty Ltd (Ambidji) has been engaged by Wind Prospect CWP Pty Ltd (Wind Prospect) to undertake an aeronautical impact assessment and to review obstacle marking and lighting requirements for the proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm. The proposed wind farm site is located 10km south west of Nimmitabel and 30km north of Bombala, in the New South Wales Southern Highlands.



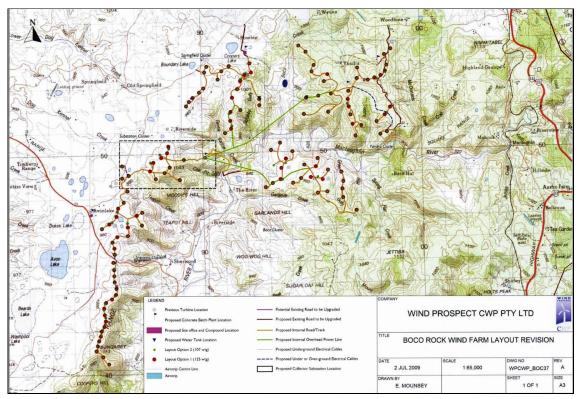


Fig 1-1 Boco Rock Wind Farm Location 1

Two layouts are being considered for the wind farm; one consisting of 107 wind turbines the other 125 wind turbines. The difference in the number of turbines relates to the rotor diameters for wind turbines available in the market place. The 107 turbine layout is linked to 100m rotors whereas the 125 turbine layout is linked to 90m rotors. Either turbine will be mounted on a mast with a hub height of up to 100m. The highest wind turbine (to rotor tip) being considered for this wind farm will therefore be 152m (500ft) AGL.

Examination of the proposed layout of the wind farm from data supplied by Wind Prospect indicates that the highest terrain on the site has a maximum elevation of 1100m (3609ft). The highest turbine will therefore be approximately 1252m (4110ft) AHD at the rotor tip.

Airfields considered as requiring assessment in this report include Cooma, Polo Flat, Bombala, Jindabyne and Delegate.

¹ Source: Wind Prospect CWP Pty Ltd, July 2009

A CASA certified airfield at Cooma is located approximately 35km north of the site. An uncertified airfield at Polo Flat is located approximately 40km north of the proposed development. Both of these airfields have published Instrument Approach Procedures with associated Procedures for Air Navigation Surfaces (PANS OPS) extending out to 55km (30nm) from near the centre of the airfield. PANS OPS allows aircraft to conduct an instrument approach to these airports in poor weather conditions. These two airfields also have Obstacle Limitation Surfaces (OLS) extending to 4km from the runway ends. There are no other airfields with instrument approach procedures within 55.6km (30nm) of any part of the wind farm development.

Unlicensed airfields at Jindabyne (47km north-west), Bombala (35km south) and Delegate (40km south) are shown on aeronautical charts but do not have PANS OPS surfaces or OLS. These airfields are sufficiently distant from the wind farm site to ensure that takeoff and landing procedures at these airstrips will not be affected by the proposed wind farm.

Other private airstrips and landing grounds may be located within 30km of the boundary of the proposed wind farm. These airstrips and landing grounds do not require OLS and are not included in aeronautical charts for the region. Pilots operating at such private airstrips are responsible for ensuring that they are aware of the conditions on and surrounding these landing sites.

Evaluation of the potential aeronautical impact and obstacle marking and lighting review has been undertaken in accordance with relevant civil aviation safety regulations. In summary, this aeronautical impact study and obstacle marking and lighting review has determined that:

- The highest turbine in this proposed wind farm will be approximately 1252m (4110ft) AMSL and, as such:
 - Will not penetrate any OLS surfaces;
 - Will not penetrate any PANS OPS surface;
 - Will not have an impact on nearby designated air routes; and
 - Will not have an adverse impact on local aviation activities.
- 2. The proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm is:
 - Not located within the vicinity of a regulated aerodrome. The nearest regulated aerodrome (Cooma) is some 35km to the north of the wind farm site;
 - Located in a remote and mountainous area where there is higher and unlit terrain to the north-east of the site and very little aviation activity at low altitudes due to its remoteness;
 - Located outside the clearance zones associated with Air Traffic Control radar facilities and aviation navigation aids; and
 - Sufficiently distant from airfields to not have an impact on contingency procedures and engine inoperative flight paths.

These findings show that the Boco Rock Wind Farm is not likely to be assessed as an "Obstacle" or hazard to the safety of aircraft and airport operations.

Additional factors and findings to be taken into consideration for this aeronautical impact assessment and review of obstacle marking and lighting requirements are:

- 1. Aircraft operating in the area, apart from those undertaking authorised low level operations, are required to be operating at heights in excess of the highest turbine. Australian IFR charts indicate a Lowest Safe Altitude of 5900ft (1799m), which is some 1800 ft (549m) higher than the highest wind turbine.
- 2. The World Aeronautical Chart (WAC) for the area shows a lit tower on top of Brown Mountain, approximately 7km east of the wind farm at 4591 ft (1399m) AHD, which is some 481 ft (147m) higher than the highest wind turbine. Another lit tower is shown at Hudsons Peak, approximately 11km north of the wind farm at 4129ft (1259m), which is slightly higher than the highest turbine at Boco Rock Wind Farm.
- 3. Pilots undertaking authorised low level operations such as crop dusting, fire fighting, cattle mustering, search and rescue, power line and gas pipe line monitoring undergo specialised training and are required to take account of obstacles when planning and conducting low level operations
- 4. Australian policy, standards and recommended practices for obstacle marking and lighting of wind farms are currently under review. A current proposal includes a change to the criterion height of 110m (361 ft) to 152m (500ft) AGL for wind farms within the vicinity of a regulated aerodrome. The wind turbines for Boco Rock will be 152m AGL.
- 5. There are precedent examples of non-provision of obstacle lighting of wind turbines where it has been assessed that the wind farm:
 - Does not represent an "Obstacle" or a hazard to the safety of aircraft and airport operations;
 - Is not located in the vicinity of a regulated aerodrome; and
 - There is higher terrain in the vicinity of the wind farm.

Consideration of all the above findings indicates that there is no operational justification for the provision of obstacle lighting of the proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm as:

- the wind farm is unlikely to be assessed as presenting an "Obstacle" or hazard to the safety of aircraft and airport operations;
- the wind farm is located more than 30km from the nearest regulated aerodrome;
- the wind farm is located in an area where there is significant mountainous terrain;
- IFR pilots operating in the area are required to operate at currently published altitudes that are well in excess of the highest turbine; and
- VFR pilots operating in the area are required to operate at altitudes that are well in excess of the highest turbine. In addition, the rugged terrain in the area requires VFR pilots to exercise additional terrain clearances.

Obstacle marking of the wind turbines is not required as CASA considers that wind turbines are sufficiently conspicuous by day due to their shape size and colour. Marking would only be

required if the turbine colour is such that they are not visually conspicuous against the prevailing background.

Notwithstanding the above findings, as the Boco Rock Wind Farm turbine tip heights will exceed 110m AGL, formal notification to CASA and the Department of Defence is to be provided in accordance with:

- CASA Advisory Circular AC 139-08(0) "Reporting of Tall Structures" to enable inclusion of the wind farm location and height of turbines in relevant aeronautical information publications; and
- CASA Form 406 "Operational Assessment of Existing and Proposed Structures".

Both of these notifications would be supported by this aeronautical impact assessment and review of obstacle marking and lighting requirements.

Formal notification should also be provided to local aviation interested parties and relevant aviation stakeholders of the intention to construct a wind farm at Boco Rock.

Additional and separate notification to CASA will be required in relation to the use of cranes (temporary obstacles) during the on-site wind farm development and the wind turbine construction process if the crane height exceeds 110m AGL.

Post-construction information to be provided to CASA and the Department of Defence includes:

- 3. "As constructed" coordinates of each tower (latitude and longitude);
- 4. The final height in M AHD of each turbine; and
- 5. The ground level of the site in M AHD for each tower.

2 INTRODUCTION

The Ambidji Group Pty Ltd (Ambidji) has been engaged by Wind Prospect CWP Pty Ltd (Wind Prospect) to undertake an aeronautical impact assessment and to review the requirement for obstacle marking and lighting for the proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm. The proposed wind farm project is located 10km south west of Nimmitabel and 30km north of Bombala, in the New South Wales Southern Highlands.

Two layouts are being considered for the wind farm; one consisting of 107 wind turbine generators (WTG), the other 125 WTG. The difference in the number of turbines relates to the rotor diameters for wind turbines available in the market place. The 107 turbine layout is linked to 100m rotors whereas the 125 turbine layout is linked to 90m rotors. Either of the turbines will be mounted on a mast with a hub height of up to 100m. The highest wind turbine (to rotor tip) being considered for this wind farm will be 152m (500ft) AGL. Appendix A provides the wind farm site details and topography.

Examination of the proposed layout of the wind farm from data supplied by Wind Prospect, (refer to Appendix B – Turbine Coordinates and Elevations), indicates that the highest terrain on the site has a maximum elevation of 1100m. The highest turbine will therefore be approximately 1252m (4110ft) AHD at the rotor tip.

3 METHODOLOGY

This aeronautical impact assessment and obstacle marking and lighting review included the following evaluations and assessments:

- The location of the proposed site in relation to Obstacle Limitation Surfaces was determined accurately based on the wind farm siting information as provided by Wind Prospect;
- Consideration was given to Civil Aviation Safety Regulations (CASR) Part 139 Manual of Standards (MOS), particularly:
 - Chapter 7: Obstacle Restriction and Limitation; and
 - Chapter 11: Standards for Other Aerodrome Facilities;
- Relevant instrument approach procedures were examined in detail to determine whether the development would impose any restriction on those procedures. Any restriction on the instrument approach procedures would need to be examined by Airservices Australia to determine if a change to the instrument approach procedures is possible without restricting aviation movements. It is likely that any restriction on the PANS OPS surfaces would preclude further consideration of an application for development of the wind farm unless appropriate mitigation measures are effected;
- Consideration was given to Defence (Area Control) Regulations (DACR), the operation of military aircraft conducting low flying operations in the area, and the operation of civilian aircraft during recognised low flying activities in the area;
- Existing designated air routes were examined in relation to the proposed modifications, to determine if there would be any influence on the Lowest Safe Altitudes published for these routes;
- Civil Aviation Order 20.7.1B relates to the minimum requirements for clearance of obstacles by an aircraft that has suffered a failure of a critical engine during take-off. These contingency procedures analyse the minimum safe altitudes (and therefore relate to maximum allowable obstacle heights) required in such a circumstance. The influence that development on the site would have on contingency (CAO 20.7.1B) procedures was considered;
- Assessment of applicable Civil Aviation Regulations, standards and recommended practices in respect to notification of tall structures that may present obstacles and hazards to aviation activities, including obstacle marking and lighting requirements;
- A preliminary assessment of potential impacts on navigational aids and air traffic control radar coverage; and
- A concise summary was made of the findings and conclusion as to whether the proposal should be approved.

4 CONSULTATIONS AND CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL AVIATION ACTIVITIES

The increase in wind farm development throughout Australia in recent years as a result of alternative energy requirements has involved inputs from aviation interests. Airport and airway infrastructure and aviation safety requirements associated with wind farms and other building developments are "protected" by CASA regulations, and the aviation industry, when invited to comment on specific wind farm developments, will frequently indicate that, provided the requirements of CASA are observed, they have no further comment. In general, this means that the wind farm is to be assessed in terms of potential aeronautical impact, that marking and lighting of the wind farm, if required, is to be provided in accordance with CASA regulations, and that notification of any Tall Structure is effected to enable inclusion of the wind farm location on relevant aeronautical charts. Inclusion of the wind farm on aeronautical charts enables pilots and support personnel to adequately plan and therefore consider the impact of the wind farm on their operations.

The minimum level for flight by civilian aircraft, in accordance with the Visual Flight Rules (VFR), other than during take-off and landing manoeuvres, is determined by CASA at 500ft (approximately 152m) above ground in areas outside urban development in daylight visibility conditions. At night and in low visibility conditions, the minimum height is 1000ft (approximately 305m) above ground or the highest obstacle in the area. Civilian VFR flight operations below 500ft may be carried out by specifically trained and endorsed pilots conducting crop dusting, cattle mustering, pipeline or power line surveys, fire fighting, helicopter operations, search and rescue, etc. Pilots undertaking these low level operations undergo special training and are required to take obstacles into account when planning and conducting low flying operations. The general view of pilots conducting these operations is that wind farms are more readily visible than power lines, masts and towers, and inclusion of the location and existence of the wind farms on aeronautical charts further enables them to appropriately plan their operations.

Crop dusting or aerial application of fertilisers does occur in the area surrounding the proposed Boco Rock wind farm. As the identification and avoidance of obstacles is a routine part of planning for aerial application activities, the wind farm would be assessed as an additional obstacle that pilots are trained to deal with as part of their operations.

Fire bombing activities in the area may also take place from private airfields or paddocks considered suitable. These activities are precision planned and take into account all obstacles and smoke areas. Wind turbine locations in relation to any possible landing strip, would be considered prior to any operations occurring at temporary strips.

Search and rescue and aeromedical services, which can be conducted at low levels, may also be conducted during day or night operations.

VFR glider flying and hang glider operations are conducted irregularly within the area. This wind farm site is located within rugged mountainous terrain requiring special consideration of the need to fly into such remote and rugged areas. Pilot preparation and sound airmanship practices should ensure that the wind turbines do not provide an increased hazard for pilots flying in such rugged terrain conditions.

Airline operations (and other aircraft operations) are conducted under the Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) requiring aircraft to establish a cruising altitude of at least 1000ft above the highest terrain or obstacles within a varying tolerance area either side of the route. This Lowest Safe Altitude (LSALT) is published on IFR aeronautical charts. IFR aircraft can operate in cloud and poor visibility conditions and are not dependent on visual contact with terrain. For IFR aircraft

operations where there is no designated air-route, the pilot applies a complex formula to determine the lowest safe altitude above the highest terrain, according to the preferred track, or the pilot applies a published GRID LSALT shown on IFR aeronautical charts. During descent for landing or climbing on take-off, the IFR pilot follows published Instrument Approach and Departure Procedures which apply varying minimum altitude requirements (PANS OPS) above terrain.

Low level flight operations are conducted by Australian Defence Force aircraft throughout Australia. Military aircraft can operate at very low level by day and by night, but only after thorough investigation of the intended flight paths in relation to terrain, obstacles, airfields and populous areas that need to be avoided or accounted for in the conduct of the flight. These flights are subject to precise planning by military aircrew. The Department of Defence has advised the proponent that the proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm is located "outside any areas affected by the Defence (Area Control) Regulations" and "will not cause any unacceptable interference to Defence communications". Once construction of the wind farm is approved, and the wind farm reported to CASA and RAAF AIS prior to construction under the "Notification of Tall Structure" provisions, the wind farm will be shown on aeronautical charts and included in military obstruction databases, accessible by all military aircrew, allowing them to plan a safe flight operation in the area. Defence also require to be advised of the "as installed" details of the wind farm. Defence has indicated they have no objection to the proposed wind farm, subject to the notification of the details as outlined above.

CASA has determined that by day, large wind turbines are sufficiently conspicuous due to their shape and size, provided the colour of the turbine is of a contrasting colour to the background. Accordingly, unless the colour of the turbine is likely to blend in with the background, the characteristic obstacle marking colours and/or patterns, detailed in MOS Part 139, are not required. Experience has shown that the white colour universally adopted for wind turbines installed so far in Australia, satisfies the requirements for daytime conspicuity.

Table 4.1 below summarises the approximate distances to the operational airfields nearest to the proposed Boco Rock wind farm.

AIRFIELD	Approximate Distance to Wind Farm	Direction from Wind Farm	OLS/PANS OPS
Cooma	35km	355 Deg True	Both
Polo Flat	40km	360 Deg True	Both
Jindabyne	47km	340 Deg True	No
Bombala	35km	170 Deg True	No
Delegate	50km	210 Deg True	No

Table 4.1 Approximate Distances of Nearest Airfields from Wind Farm

As indicated in the table above, the proposed wind farm site is more than 30km from airfields shown in aeronautical information publications. It is acknowledged that there may be other airstrips in the vicinity, particularly private operators. There is also significant higher and unlit terrain in the area. Given that the highest turbine will be 152m (500ft) and that currently CASA has indicated they expect wind turbines exceeding 110m AGL should be fitted with obstacle lighting unless there are unusual circumstances, it is necessary to give further consideration to obstacle lighting requirements. It should be noted that CASA and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government are currently reviewing marking and lighting requirements for obstacles remote from airfields.

5 ANALYSIS OF OBSTACLE LIMITATION SURFACES (OLS)

Obstacle Limitation Surfaces (OLS) protect aircraft operations in the vicinity of airfields from obstacle intrusion into safety margins. The OLS at Cooma and Polo Flat airfields extend to a radius of 4km from the Aerodrome Reference Point (ARP). As the closest point of the proposed wind farm is approximately 35km and 40km from the airfields at Cooma and Polo Flat respectively, the OLS at both airfields are not infringed by the proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm. Fig. 5.1 below shows superimposed on an aeronautical chart for the area, the approximate location of the wind farm and its proximity to nearby airports and their associated OLS.

There are no other airfields with Obstacle Limitation Surfaces that are affected by this wind farm proposal.

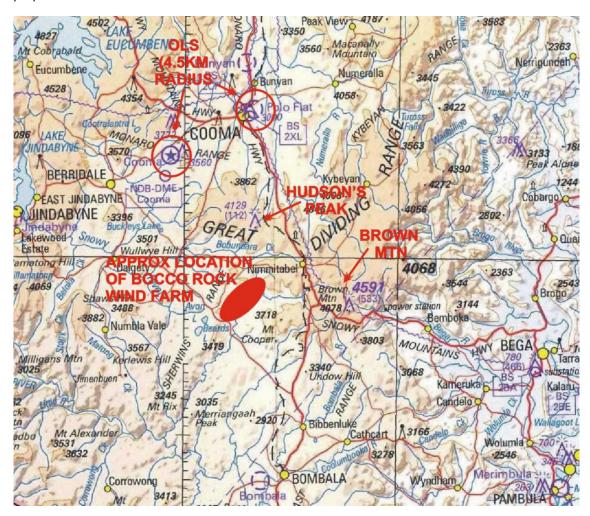


Fig 5.1 - Boco Rock Wind Farm and Proximity to Nearby Airports and Associated OLS

6 ANALYSIS OF PANS OPS SURFACES

Assessment of the impact on PANS OPS surfaces by the proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm development was undertaken with respect to published Minimum Descent Altitudes, Circling Minima and Minimum Sector Altitudes (MSA) as published in the Australian Aeronautical Information Publication, Departures and Approach Procedures (AIP DAP) effective 27 August 2009, associated Aeronautical Information Circulars (AIC), Aeronautical Information Supplements and NOTAMS relevant to this edition of AIP DAP.

At the calculated maximum height of the highest turbine at 1252m (4110ft) AHD, the Boco Rock Wind Farm development will not affect the PANS OPS surfaces at Cooma or Polo Flat airfields. The minimum clearance between the highest turbine and prescribed airspace is 490ft for the DME ARRIVAL Sector B for Cooma and 506ft for the 25nm MSA for Polo Flat.

A full and detailed PANS OPS assessment considering all operational procedures applicable to the area was undertaken and is included at Appendix C.

7 NEARBY AIR-ROUTES

In the context of the published air-routes in the area of the proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm and the physical environment, the proposed wind farm is located underneath the protection surfaces for three air-routes and within an area containing a Grid Lowest Safe Altitude. Table 7.1 below shows the amount of clearance between the proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm and the protection surfaces of the air-routes overlaying the wind farm.

AIR -ROUTE	LSALT	PROTECTION SURFACE ALTITUDE	PROTECTION SURFACE CLEARANCE ABOVE WIND FARM
W290 (Cooma- East Sale)	7500ft	6500ft	2390ft
W675 (Cooma-Mallacoota)	6100ft	5100ft	990ft
V20 (Cooma-Eildon Weir)	8700ft	7700 ft	4590ft
GRID LSALT	5900ft	4900ft	790ft

Table 7.1 Air Routes

The minimum clearance between the highest turbine located on the highest terrain and the protection surface of the lowest designated air-route in the area is 790ft; therefore the proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm does not have an impact on designated routes in the vicinity of the project.

8 CONTINGENCY PROCEDURES – ENGINE INOPERATIVE FLIGHT PATHS

In the context of the aircraft and airport operations in the area of the proposed wind farm and the physical environment, the proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm is considered to be sufficiently distant from nearby airfields to not have an impact on contingency procedures and engine inoperative flight paths in the area.

9 EVALUATION OF OBSTACLE MARKING AND LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS

9.1 Obstacle Marking of Boco Rock Wind Farm

Marking of wind farm turbines in accordance with obstacle marking requirements is not normally required as CASA considers that wind turbines installed in Australia are sufficiently conspicuous by day due to their shape, size and colour. Marking would only be required if the turbine colour is such that they are not visually conspicuous against the prevailing background².

It is understood that the turbines proposed for Boco Rock will be of an appropriate colour that will not require painting or marking to increase conspicuity.

9.2 Obstacle Lighting of Boco Rock Wind Farm

The aeronautical requirements for marking and lighting of wind farms are currently undergoing review by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (DITRDLG) and CASA. It is understood that ICAO will be issuing an amendment to ICAO Annex 14 (Aerodromes) later this year that addresses, *inter alia*, wind farms. DITRDLG recently issued a Discussion Paper "Safeguards for airports and the communities around them" that implies an amendment to the criteria for wind turbine heights from 110m to 152m AGL as being applicable to wind farms in the vicinity of aerodromes. In addition, CASA is currently reviewing its withdrawn Advisory Circular AC139-181 "Obstacle Marking and Lighting of Wind Farms". The outcomes of these various reviews may result in:

- Revised criteria for wind farms; and
- Wind farms such as Boco Rock Wind Farm not requiring obstacle lighting, depending on the findings of a qualitative risk assessment to be undertaken by the proponent.

While the DITRDLG Discussion Paper applies specifically to wind farms within the vicinity (generally accepted as 30km) of aerodromes, CASA is also currently reviewing the requirements for marking and lighting of obstacles and hazards remote from aerodromes. CASA has informally advised the wind farm industry that a qualitative risk assessment approach to the potential hazards, as presented by wind farms, may be considered.

CASA's current position on obstacle lighting of wind farms that are remote from an aerodrome (which is the situation for Boco Rock Wind Farm) is summarised as:

- CASA cannot mandate obstacle lighting for wind farms that are "not within the vicinity" of an aerodrome (within 30km);
- Provision of obstacle lighting is the responsibility of the proponent;

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² Source: CASA Advisory Circular AC139-18(0). (Note: Although this AC has been withdrawn pending review, the technical requirements are considered to still apply.)

- Any associated requirements placed on proponents by planning authorities, insurers or financiers are beyond CASA's scope;
- A wind farm proponent may have a duty of care to the aviation industry and local operators in terms of ensuring obstacles are made conspicuous; and
- Obstacle marking and lighting requirements as specified in the CASA Manual of Standards Part 139, Chapters 8 and 9 applies.

CASA Manual of Standards (MOS) 139, Chapter 9, Section 9.4 indicates that for structures more than 110m AGL, the proponent should expect that obstacle lighting will be required unless there are unusual circumstances. The turbines to be installed at Boco Rock will have a maximum height of 152m AGL. However, there have been precedent examples where CASA has acknowledged non-provision of obstacle lighting of wind farms in Australia where the turbine height exceeds 110m AGL. Such installations have been the subject of a hazard risk assessment that takes into account such factors as location of the wind farm with respect to nearby airfields and air routes, potential impact on navigable airspace, surrounding terrain, local aviation activity in the area, and environmental considerations. The wind farms concerned are Capital Wind Farm and Gunning Wind Farm, both of which are sited in mountainous area to the north of Goulburn in NSW, are remote from regulated airports, and were assessed as not presenting a hazard to aircraft operations.

The World Aeronautical Chart³ (WAC) covering the area of the Boco Rock Wind Farm site indicates the existence of lit towers closer to Cooma and Polo Flat airports; i.e. Brown Mountain at 4591ft AHD and Hudsons Peak at 4129 ft AHD, both of which are higher than the highest turbine at Boco Rock. As pilots are required to plan for a minimum clearance at night of 1000ft above the highest obstacle, then the minimum height of aircraft operating in the vicinity of the wind farm should be some 1481 ft (451m) above the highest turbine.

As indicated above, Australian policy, standards and recommended practices for obstacle marking and lighting of wind farms are currently under review. A current proposal includes a change to the criterion height of 110m (361ft) to 152m (500ft) AGL for wind farms within the vicinity of a certified or registered aerodrome. Although the Boco Rock Wind Farm is not within the vicinity of a certified or registered aerodrome, the proposed turbines align with this revised criterion height.

The above aeronautical impact assessment determined that the Boco Rock wind Farm will not be assessed as an "Obstacle" or potential hazard to aviation as the wind farm turbines:

- 1. Do not penetrate OLS or PANS OPS surfaces, or Lowest Safer Altitudes (LSALT) associated with nearby designated air routes;
- 2. Are located more than 30km from the nearest regulated aerodrome; and
- 3. Are sited in remote and rugged mountainous terrain where there is terrain higher than the wind farm site and where prudent pilots would be expected to increase clearances from terrain.

In view of the above findings and considerations, this review of obstacle lighting requirements for the Boco Rock Wind Farm therefore submits that there is no operational justification for the provision of obstacle lighting.

³ WAC 3470 (Melbourne)

10 OTHER ISSUES

10.1 Radar Interference and Shadowing

Radar interference and shadowing was assessed in accordance with CASR Part 139 Manual of Standards⁴. The nearest ATC Radar is located at Canberra, ACT, and the Boco Rock Wind Farm proposed development is located outside the clearance zones associated with ATC Radar Facilities.

10.2 Potential Impact on Airport Navigation Aids

Potential impact on airport navigational aids was assessed in accordance with CASR Part 139 Manual of Standards⁵. The nearest aviation navigation aids are at Cooma. The Boco Rock Wind Farm development is located outside the clearance zones associated with these Navigation Aids and therefore will not be affected by the wind farm proposal.

10.3 Potential Impact on ATC Communication Facilities

Airservices Australia has a VHF radio outlet located on Brown Mountain, approximately 26km east of the proposed wind farm. This radio facility will not be affected by the wind farm proposal.

10.4 Future Developments

It is unlikely that any future developments of the PANS OPS surfaces at Cooma and Polo Flat Airports will be affected by the wind farm due to the runway configuration and surrounding terrain.

Any future development of Instrument Approach Procedures at any airfields within 55.6KM (30NM) of the wind farm will be required to take the wind farm characteristics into account during the design process.

10.5 Reporting of Tall Structures

As the proposed wind farm contains wind turbines which will exceed 110m AGL, the developer is required to inform CASA of the development in accordance with AC 139-08(0) so that the wind farm details can be included on relevant aeronautical charts and databases.

The information to be provided to CASA by the developer includes:

- "As constructed" coordinates of each tower (in latitude and longitude);
- Final height in M AHD of each tower; and

⁴ Refer MOS Chapter 11, Section 11.1.14

⁵ Refer MOS Chapter 11, Section 11

The ground level of the site, in M AHD for each tower.

Subsequent to the grant of any approval for this development, an additional and related approval will need to be sought from CASA for cranes (temporary obstacles) that exceed 110m AGL during the on-site wind farm development and the wind turbine construction process.

10.6 Notification to Local Aviation Interested Parties and Stakeholders

CASA does not have statutory powers over the requirement for obstacle marking or lighting of obstacles that are not within the vicinity (approximately 30km) of a regulated aerodrome. The nearest regulated aerodrome to Boco Rock Wind Farm is Cooma, which is 35km to the north. Nevertheless, CASA advises that the proponents of high rise structures may have a duty of care to local aviation interested parties and relevant stakeholders. Similarly, State and local government planning regulations for wind farms generally include a requirement for the proponent to notify local aviation interested parties and relevant stakeholders of a proposed wind farm. This notification is usually achieved by the proponent conducting direct correspondence with nearby airports and aviation interests and by holding Public Information Days or meetings to advise local communities of the wind farm proposal. In the case of Boco Rock, in addition to notifying the airports as identified in this report and local aviation operators, it is recommended that the proponent formally advise the following relevant aviation interested stakeholders; emergency services operators (aerial ambulance, fire services, police), aviation peak councils and aviation industry associations.

11 CONCLUSION

11.1 Aeronautical Impact Assessment

This aeronautical impact assessment was conducted in accordance with the relevant aviation and aeronautical regulations, standards and recommended practices to consider:

- The potential impacts of the Boco Rock Wind Farm on the safety of aircraft and airport operations; and
- The requirement for obstacle marking and lighting.

The aeronautical impact assessment has determined that the highest turbine in this proposed wind farm is 1252m (4110ft) AMSL and as such:

- Will not penetrate any OLS surfaces;
- Will not penetrate any PANS OPS surface;
- Will not have an impact on nearby designated air routes;
- Will not have an adverse impact on local aviation activities;
- Will require notification to CASA and RAAF AIS under Reporting of Tall Structure requirements; and
- Will require consideration of obstacle marking and lighting requirements.

The proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm site is:

- Located outside the clearance zones associated with Air Traffic Control radar facilities and aviation navigation aids;
- Located outside Defence (Area Control) Regulation areas; and
- Located at a sufficient distant from airfields not to have an impact on contingency procedures and engine inoperative flight paths.

As the height of the turbines exceed 110m AGL, it will be necessary to notify CASA and RAAF AIS in accordance with Advisory Circular AC 139-08(0) "Reporting of Tall Structures".

The proposed Boco Rock Wind Farm has been assessed as not having an impact on prescribed airspace and is therefore considered approvable in accordance with the relevant regulations, subject to the consideration of the obstacle marking and lighting requirements and the notification to CASA of the wind farm being a "Tall Structure". This Aeronautical Study can be used as supporting documentation to an application to CASA using CASA Form 406 – Operational Assessment of Existing and Proposed Structures.

11.2 Obstacle Marking and Lighting Requirements

Obstacle marking of the wind turbines to increase daytime conspicuity is not considered necessary provided the turbines are of an appropriate colour that will not require painting or marking to increase conspicuity.

This review of obstacle lighting has determined that there is no operational justification for the provision of obstacle lighting on the grounds that the Boco Rock Wind Farm:

- 1. Does not penetrate protected airspace and has been assessed as not presenting an obstacle or hazard to the safety of aircraft and airport operations;
- 2. Is not sited within the vicinity of a regulated aerodrome; and
- 3. Is located in an area where there is higher terrain.

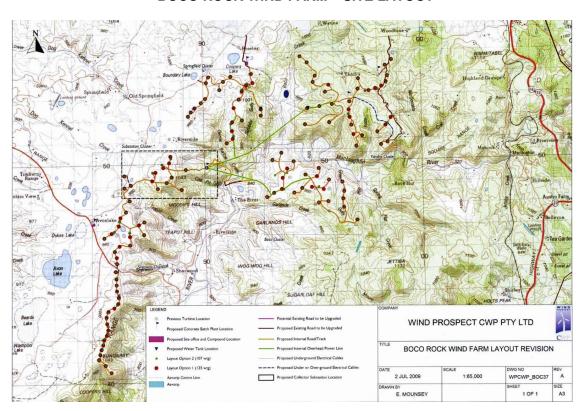
11.3 Notification to Local Aviation Interested Parties and Stakeholders

To meet government planning regulations and CASA recommendations, the proponent should provide formal advice to local aviation interested parties and associated stakeholders of the proposal to construct the wind farm at Boco Rock.

APPENDIX A BOCO ROCK WIND FARM – SITE LOCATION

APPENDIX A

BOCO ROCK WIND FARM – SITE LAYOUT



Boco Rock Wind Farm – Site Topography (Source – Wind Prospect, July 2009)

APPENDIX B TURBINE COORDINATES AND ELEVATIONS

APPENDIX B

BOCO ROCK WIND FARM - TURBINE COORDINATES & ELEVATIONS⁶

Wind Farm Layout – 107 Turbines

Coordinate System: Geodetic Datum of Australia 1994 Map Grid of Australia Zone 55

NOTE - Total height of turbines could be +/- 3m due to construction								
Turbine ID	EAST	NORTH	ELEV (AHD)	Turbine Height	Blade	Total Height		
1	697079	5947458	1040	100	52	152		
2	687735	5949793	1030	100	52	152		
3	689060	5948990	1010	100	52	152		
4	686429	5949123	1000	100	52	152		
5	685314	5942019	1020	100	52	152		
6	685239	5941774	1020	100	52	152		
7	685391	5942261	1025.8	100	52	152		
8	685471	5943164	1014.2	100	52	152		
9	685544	5942813	1030	100	52	152		
10	685548	5943443	1030	100	52	152		
11	696481	5948045	1020	100	52	152		
12	686480	5948025	1010	100	52	152		
13	688607	5949577	1040	100	52	152		
14	693737	5948912	915.7	100	52	152		
15	685924	5946234	1000	100	52	152		
16	688177	5950155	1030	100	52	152		
17	689264	5949903	990	100	52	152		
18	687305	5947553	1000	100	52	152		
19	685086	5941303	1040	100	52	152		
20	685462	5946852	990	100	52	152		
21	685950	5945309	1000	100	52	152		
22	688582	5950428	1030	100	52	152		
23	696428	5949201	951	100	52	152		
24	695344	5949857	950	100	52	152		
25	694743	5949566	960	100	52	152		
26	694588	5948950	960	100	52	152		
27	692960	5948576	910	100	52	152		
28	686184	5947607	1004.6	100	52	152		
29	696452	5948431	1000	100	52	152		
30	693291	5948764	910	100	52	152		
31	687965	5949062	1030	100	52	152		
32	685387	5941027	1020	100	52	152		
33	685651	5940690	1030	100	52	152		

⁶ Source. Wind Prospect CWP Pty Ltd, July 2009

Turbine ID	EAST	NORTH	ELEV (AHD)	Turbine Height	Blade	Total Height
34	686437	5949679	1000	100	52	152
35	686725	5949239	1000	100	52	152
36	689544	5952531	980	100	52	152
37	689720	5952714	981.6	100	52	152
38	690021	5952945	999.5	100	52	152
39	690269	5953865	1010	100	52	152
40	690378	5954117	1010	100	52	152
41	691064	5953898	1000	100	52	152
42	690882	5953523	1000	100	52	152
43	691404	5954122	1000	100	52	152
44	692762	5952598	960	100	52	152
45	692760	5952311	950	100	52	152
46	691378	5951957	950.3	100	52	152
47	691478	5951394	960	100	52	152
48	691168	5951077	950	100	52	152
49	695888	5951937	1010	100	52	152
50	697108	5950831	1000	100	52	152
51	697385	5951300	1010	100	52	152
52	696773	5952291	1060	100	52	152
53	696828	5952868	1080	100	52	152
54	697727	5953359	1090	100	52	152
55	697254	5953921	1070	100	52	152
56	697222	5953441	1080	100	52	152
57	698530	5953698	1090	100	52	152
58	698582	5954018	1090	100	52	152
59	698490	5954502	1070	100	52	152
60	696503	5948774	972.3	100	52	152
61	695808	5949311	950	100	52	152
62	692153	5953783	1000	100	52	152
63	692349	5954226	1000	100	52	152
64	696897	5951793	1040	100	52	152
65	698556	5951837	1020	100	52	152
66	698243	5950882	1010	100	52	152
67	698114	5953399	1100	100	52	152
68	694594	5954992	974.8	100	52	152
69	695268	5954084	993.4	100	52	152
70	694917	5954701	990	100	52	152
71	695166	5953796	1000	100	52	152
72	695722	5953341	1040	100	52	152
73	685998	5944387	1025	100	52	152
74	688370	5949329	1040	100	52	152
75	689417	5952335	980	100	52	152
76	686630	5946509	1000	100	52	152

Turbine ID	EAST	NORTH	ELEV (AHD)	Turbine Height	Blade	Total Height
77	696029	5952768	1030	100	52	152
78	698084	5951461	1013.8	100	52	152
79	698787	5954759	1080	100	52	152
80	690216	5953133	1000	100	52	152
81	691905	5953488	998.1	100	52	152
82	691890	5952113	960	100	52	152
83	691759	5953070	1000	100	52	152
84	685987	5943787	1030	100	52	152
85	693350	5949564	890	100	52	152
86	694775	5951867	990	100	52	152
87	685982	5944993	1010	100	52	152
88	686073	5944069	1029.3	100	52	152
89	698542	5950987	1015.1	100	52	152
90	686647	5948528	1000	100	52	152
91	687282	5946971	1020	100	52	152
92	686019	5945675	1000	100	52	152
93	685510	5942510	1030	100	52	152
94	685145	5941548	1017.3	100	52	152
95	685929	5947130	1000	100	52	152
96	685973	5944698	1007.8	100	52	152
97	695350	5949014	960	100	52	152
98	695325	5948274	960	100	52	152
99	695761	5948324	960	100	52	152
100	694221	5948752	940	100	52	152
101	695453	5952686	990	100	52	152
102	694890	5952608	960	100	52	152
103	693244	5950271	880	100	52	152
104	693662	5950592	870	100	52	152
105	694217	5950185	890	100	52	152
106	686627	5947073	1000	100	52	152
107	693904	5949660	906.9	100	52	152

Table D-1. Turbine Coordinates and Elevations – 107 Turbine Layout

Wind Farm Layout – 125 Turbines

	Coordinate System: Geodetic Datum of Australia 1994 Map Grid of Australia Zone 55								
	NOTE - Total height of turbines could be +/- 3m due to construction								
Turbine ID	EAST	NORTH	ELEV (AHD)	Turbine Height	Blade	Total Height			
1	697079	5947458	1040	100	46	146			
2	687869	5949807	1030	100	46	146			
3	689060	5948990	1010	100	46	146			
4	686429	5949123	1000	100	46	146			
5	686007	5945949	1000	100	46	146			
6	685297	5941966	1020	100	46	146			
7	685215	5941754	1020	100	46	146			
8	685343	5942192	1021.4	100	46	146			
9	685480	5943238	1012.8	100	46	146			
10	685472	5942402	1030	100	46	146			
11	685501	5942933	1030	100	46	146			
12	685575	5943492	1030	100	46	146			
13	685845	5943645	1020	100	46	146			
14	696481	5948045	1020	100	46	146			
15	686480	5948025	1010	100	46	146			
16	687062	5947430	1006.4	100	46	146			
17	688607	5949577	1040	100	46	146			
18	693651	5948929	911.7	100	46	146			
19	685924	5946234	1000	100	46	146			
20	688233	5950012	1030	100	46	146			
21	689264	5949903	990	100	46	146			
22	687305	5947553	1000	100	46	146			
23	685086	5941303	1040	100	46	146			
24	685462	5946852	990	100	46	146			
25	685950	5945309	1000	100	46	146			
26	688569	5950519	1025.1	100	46	146			
27	696428	5949201	951	100	46	146			
28	695343	5949867	950	100	46	146			
29	694743	5949566	960	100	46	146			
30	694588	5948950	960	100	46	146			
31	692960	5948576	910	100	46	146			
32	686219	5947764	1001.8	100	46	146			
33	686134	5947390	1000	100	46	146			
34	686634	5946898	1000	100	46	146			
35	696452	5948431	1000	100	46	146			
36	693291	5948764	910	100	46	146			
37	687965	5949062	1030	100	46	146			
38	685387	5941027	1020	100	46	146			
39	685651	5940690	1030	100	46	146			
40	686437	5949679	1000	100	46	146			
	500 107	5510070	1000	.00					

Turbine ID	EAST	NORTH	ELEV (AHD)	Turbine Height	Blade	Total Height
41	686725	5949239	1000	100	46	146
42	695263	5949473	960	100	46	146
43	689544	5952531	980	100	46	146
44	689720	5952714	981.6	100	46	146
45	690021	5952945	999.5	100	46	146
46	690269	5953865	1010	100	46	146
47	690378	5954117	1010	100	46	146
48	691064	5953898	1000	100	46	146
49	690882	5953523	1000	100	46	146
50	691404	5954122	1000	100	46	146
51	692111	5953706	1000	100	46	146
52	692762	5952598	960	100	46	146
53	692760	5952311	950	100	46	146
54	691523	5952688	962.2	100	46	146
55	691417	5951635	960	100	46	146
56	691452	5951277	956.5	100	46	146
57	691168	5951077	950	100	46	146
58	696989	5951367	1010	100	46	146
59	695888	5951937	1010	100	46	146
60	697108	5950831	1000	100	46	146
61	691437	5952042	960	100	46	146
62	697385	5951300	1010	100	46	146
63	696829	5952159	1052.8	100	46	146
64	696793	5952502	1060	100	46	146
65	696828	5952868	1080	100	46	146
66	697727	5953359	1090	100	46	146
67	697254	5953921	1070	100	46	146
68	697222	5953441	1080	100	46	146
69	698520	5953754	1090	100	46	146
70	698582	5954018	1090	100	46	146
71	698490	5954502	1070	100	46	146
72	696503	5948774	972.4	100	46	146
73	695769	5948322	960	100	46	146
74	692370	5953842	1000	100	46	146
75	692295	5954209	1000	100	46	146
76	696897	5951793	1040	100	46	146
77	698712	5952101	1020	100	46	146
78	698463	5951758	1020	100	46	146
79	698243	5950882	1010	100	46	146
80	698025	5953446	1100	100	46	146
81	694594	5954992	974.8	100	46	146
82	695268	5954084	993.4	100	46	146
83	694917	5954701	990	100	46	146

Turbine ID	EAST	NORTH	ELEV (AHD)	Turbine Height	Blade	Total Height
84	695166	5953796	1000	100	46	146
85	695722	5953341	1040	100	46	146
86	685985	5944422	1028.7	100	46	146
87	688370	5949329	1040	100	46	146
88	689417	5952335	980	100	46	146
89	686630	5946509	1000	100	46	146
90	686152	5946469	990	100	46	146
91	696029	5952768	1030	100	46	146
92	698084	5951461	1013.8	100	46	146
93	698787	5954759	1080	100	46	146
94	687710	5949418	1028.3	100	46	146
95	688506	5950225	1030	100	46	146
96	690216	5953133	1000	100	46	146
97	691905	5953433	994	100	46	146
98	691890	5952113	960	100	46	146
99	691759	5953070	1000	100	46	146
100	686036	5943853	1030	100	46	146
101	693700	5949440	910	100	46	146
102	694775	5951867	990	100	46	146
103	698310	5953551	1090	100	46	146
104	685978	5944973	1011.4	100	46	146
105	686064	5944127	1026.6	100	46	146
106	698542	5950987	1015.1	100	46	146
107	686647	5948528	1000	100	46	146
108	687282	5946971	1020	100	46	146
109	686019	5945675	1000	100	46	146
110	685544	5942653	1030	100	46	146
111	685158	5941522	1019.6	100	46	146
112	685799	5947060	1000	100	46	146
113	695883	5953654	1034	100	46	146
114	685973	5944698	1007.8	100	46	146
115	695808	5949311	950	100	46	146
116	695023	5948990	960	100	46	146
117	695324	5948274	960	100	46	146
118	695561	5948880	960	100	46	146
119	694221	5948752	940	100	46	146
120	695453	5952686	990	100	46	146
121	694890	5952608	960	100	46	146
122	693244	5950271	880	100	46	146
123	693662	5950592	870	100	46	146
124	694217	5950185	890	100	46	146
125	693914	5949858	900	100	46	146

Table D-2. Turbine Coordinates and Elevations – 125 Turbine Layout

APPENDIX C

PANS OPS ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

APPENDIX C

PANS OPS ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET COOMA and POLO FLAT OBSTACLE ASSESSMENT BOCO ROCK WIND FARM

Date: 2 October 2009 DAP EFF DATE: 27 August 2009

OBSTACLE DETAILS			
Location	The proposed Boco Rock wind farm project is located near Nimmitabel in the NSW Southern Highlands.		
Altitude (M/FT)	MAX ALT = 1252m (4110ft) AHD		

COOMA

		MINIMUM	SECTOR ALTITI	JDE	
	MSA	МОС	PANS SFC AL		RESULT
25NM MSA North West	8000	984	701	6	WIND FARM IS OUTSIDE PANSOPS SFC.
25NM MSA South East	5600	984	461	6	WIND FARM MAX ALT IS 506ft BELOW THE PANSOPS SFC.
10NM MSA	5700	984	471	6	WIND FARM IS OUTSIDE PANSOPS SFC.
	NON-PREC	ISION APP	PROACH PROCE	DURES (N	IPA)
	MDA (ACC QNH)	MOC	PANS OPS SFC ALT (FT)		RESULT
DME Arrival – Sector B	5600*	1000	4600	*WIND FARM IS 490FT BELOW THE PROC ALT FOR THE SEGMENT ABOVE THE WIND FARM	
ALL OTHER PROCEDURES	NA	NA	NA	WIND FARM IS OUTSIDE ALL PANSOPS SFCS	

POLO FLAT

MINIMUM SECTOR ALTITUDE					
	MSA	MOC	PANS	OPS	RESULT
			SFC AL	T (FT)	
25NM MSA SOUTH	5600	984	461	6	WIND FARM IS 506FT BELOW
25NW W5A 5001H	3000	304	401	0	THE PANSOPS SFC.
25NM MSA NORTH	6800	984	581	6	WIND FARM IS OUTSIDE
25NW WSA NONTH	0000	904	301	0	PANSOPS SFC.
10NM MSA	5500	984	451	6	WIND FARM IS OUTSIDE
	5500	904	4510		PANSOPS SFC.
NON-PRECISION APPROACH PROCEDURES (NPA)					
	MDA	MOC	PANS OPS		RESULT
	(ACC QNH)		SFC ALT (FT)		
RNAV - N	NA	NA	NA	WIND F	ARM IS OUTSIDE ALL PANSOPS
HNAV - N	INA	INA	INA		SFCS

APPENDIX D GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

APPENDIX D

GLOSSARY OF TERMS and ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations used in this report, and the meanings assigned to them for the purposes of this report are detailed in the following table:

Abbreviation	Meaning
AC	Advisory Circular (document support CAR 1998)
ACFT	Aircraft
AD	Aerodrome
AHD	Australian Height Datum
AHT	Aircraft height
AIP	Aeronautical Information Publication
AIRPORTS ACT	Airports Act 1996, as amended
AIS	Aeronautical Information Service
ALT	Altitude
AMSL	Above Minimum Sea Level
A(PofA)R	Airports (Protection of Airspace) Regulations, 1996 as amended
APARs	Airports (Protection of Airspace) Regulations, 1996 as amended
ARP	Aerodrome Reference Point
AsA	Airservices Australia
ATC	Air Traffic Control(ler)
ATM	Air Traffic Management
CAO	Civil Aviation Order
CAR	Civil Aviation Regulation
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
CASR	Civil Aviation Safety Regulation
Cat	Category
DAP	Departure and Approach Procedures (charts published by AsA)
DER	Departure End of (the) Runway
DEVELMT	Development
DME	Distance Measuring Equipment
Doc nn	ICAO Document Number nn
DITRDLG	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government. Also called "Infrastructure". (Formerly Department of Transport and Regional Services (DoTARS))
DOTARS	See DITRDLG above
ELEV	Elevation (above mean sea level)
ENE	East North East
ERSA	Enroute Supplement Australia
FAF	Final Approach Fix
FAP	Final Approach Point
ft	feet
GA	General Aviation
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System

Abbreviation	Meaning
GP	Glide Path
IAS	Indicated Airspeed
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
IFR	Instrument Flight Rules
IHS	Inner Horizontal Surface, an Obstacle Limitation Surface
ILS	Instrument Landing System
ISA	International Standard Atmosphere
km	kilometres
kt	Knot (one nautical mile per hour)
LAT	Latitude
LLZ	Localizer
LONG	Longitude
LSALT	Lowest Safe Altitude
m	metres
MAPt	Missed Approach Point
MDA	Minimum Descent Altitude
MGA94	Map Grid Australia 1994
MOC	Minimum Obstacle Clearance
MOS	Manual of Standards, published by CASA
MSA	Minimum Sector Altitude
MVA	Minimum Vector Altitude
NDB	Non Directional Beacon
NE	North East
NM	Nautical Mile (= 1.852 km)
nnDME	Distance from the DME (in nautical miles)
NNE	North North East
NOTAM	NOtice To AirMen
OAS	Obstacle Assessment Surface
OCA	Obstacle Clearance Altitude
OCH	Obstacle Clearance Height
OHS	Outer Horizontal Surface
OIS	Obstacle Identification Surface
OLS	Obstacle Limitation Surface
PANS-OPS	Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Aircraft Operations, ICAO Doc 8168
PRM	Precision Runway Monitor
PROC	Procedure
QNH	An altimeter setting relative to height above mean sea level
RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force
REF	Reference
RL	Relative Level
RNAV	aRea NAVigation
RNP	Required Navigation Performance
RPA	Rules and Practices for Aerodromes
	— replaced by the MOS Part 139 — Aerodromes

Abbreviation	Meaning
RPT	Regular Public Transport
RWY	Runway
SFC	Surface
SID	Standard Instrument Departure
SOC	Start Of Climb
STAR	Standard ARrival
TAR	Terminal Approach Radar
TAS	True AirSpeed
THR	Threshold (Runway)
TNA	Turn Altitude
TODA	Take-Off Distance Available
VFR	Visual Flight Rules
V _n	aircraft critical Velocity reference
VOR	Very high frequency Omni directional Range
WAC	World Aeronautical Chart
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator