



**Australian Government**

**Department of Defence**  
Estate and Infrastructure Group

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ID-EP-DLP&R/OUT/2019/BK1684660

Mr Tim Stuckey  
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer  
Resource and Energy Assessment  
Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Stuckley

**RE: BOCO ROCK WIND PROJECT STAGE 2 – YANDRA CLUSTER –  
MODIFICATION PROPOSAL (SSD 09\_0103)**

The Department of Defence (Defence) would like to thank the Department of Planning & Environment (NSW) for referring this matter to Defence for comment. Defence understands that the proposal involves modifications to the Boco Rock Wind Project – Stage 2 -Yandra cluster.

The modification proposal incorporates a reduction in the number of turbines in stage 2 from 32 to 20 and an increase in turbine tip height from 152m to 200m above ground level (AGL).

Defence has assessed the stage 2 modification proposal for any possible impact on the safety of military flying operations and Defence communications.

It is noted the Aeronautical Impact Assessment (AIA) prepared by Landrum & Brown as part of the stage 2 – Yandra cluster modification application does not identify a requirement for obstacle lighting of the turbine structures. It is understood CASA correspondence dated 4 December 2018 has not recommended aviation hazard lighting.

Defence's review of the proposed stage 2 modification has not identified any adverse impacts on Defence flying operations or communications. Whilst Defence has not identified a specific requirement for aviation hazard lighting, should this be installed in future, any lighting and marking of the towers should be in accordance with Section 9.4 of the CASA Manual of Standards 139. Should the proposal incorporate any LED obstruction lighting, Defence requests that the frequency range of the LED light emitted falls within the range of wavelengths 655 to 930 nanometres. This will assure the towers are visible to aircrew using night vision devices.

Defence would like to highlight the National Airports Safeguarding Framework Guideline D: "Managing the Risk to Aviation Safety of Wind Turbine Installations (Wind Farms) / Wind Monitoring Towers". It provides appropriate guidelines to address the risk to aviation arising from the development, presence and use of wind farms and wind monitoring towers.

There is an ongoing need to obtain and maintain accurate information about tall structures so that this information can be marked on aeronautical charts. Marking tall structures on aeronautical charts assists pilot navigation and enhances flight safety. Air Services Australia (ASA) is

responsible for recording the location and height of tall structures. The information is held in a central database managed by ASA and relates to the erection, extension or dismantling of tall structures the top of which is above:

- a. 30 metres AGL, that are within 30 kilometres of aerodrome, and
- b. 45 metres AGL elsewhere.

The 200 metre turbines meet the requirements for reporting of tall structures. Defence therefore requests that the applicant provide ASA “as constructed” details. The details can be emailed to ASA at the following email address: [vod@airservicesaustralia.com](mailto:vod@airservicesaustralia.com).

Should you wish to discuss the content of this advice further, my point of contact is Mr Greg Ahrens at [DSRGIDEP.ExecutiveSupport@defence.gov.au](mailto:DSRGIDEP.ExecutiveSupport@defence.gov.au) or by telephone on (08) 73830420.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sonya Dare', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

**Sonya Dare**

Director – External Land Planning and Regulation  
Estate Planning Branch, Infrastructure Division

22 March 2019