



Australian Government

Department of Defence
Defence Support Group

EP_ID_ELP/2013/OUT/AF13064329

Ms Joanne Glass

NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Glass

RE: Environmental Assessment for White Rock Wind Farm Modification (Part 3A Mod 12_5584)

Thank you for advising the Department of Defence (Defence) of the proposal for the White Rock wind farm situated 20 km west of Glen Innes in North West of NSW. Defence understands the wind farm is to consist of 119 wind turbines with maximum above ground level heights of 150m and associated infrastructure.

Defence has assessed the proposal for any impacts to operations in the area. This includes safety of low flying military aircraft, as well as affects to Defence communications, and surveillance radars. Defence advises that the White Rock wind farm would not adversely affect military aircraft operations or interfere with Defence communications and radar.

There is an ongoing need to obtain and maintain accurate information about tall structures so that risks associated with inadvertent collision by low flying aircraft can be reduced. The RAAF Aeronautical Information Service (RAAF AIS) is responsible for recording the location and height of tall structures. The information is held in a central database managed by RAAF AIS and relates to the erection, extension or dismantling of tall structures the top measurement of which is:

- a. 30 metres or more above ground level - within 30 kilometres of an aerodrome, or
- b. 45 metres or more above ground level elsewhere.

The proposed wind turbines and wind monitoring masts will meet the above definition of a tall structure. The Department of Defence requests that the proponent provide RAAF AIS with "as constructed" details of the wind farm. RAAF AIS has a web site with a Vertical Obstruction Report Form at www.raafais.gov.au/obstr_form.htm which can be used to enter the location and height details of tall structures.

Should you wish to discuss the content of this submission further please contact Mr Tim Hogan on (02) 6266 8540 or email on lpsi.directorate@defence.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simone Murray', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Simone Murray
Director External Land Planning
Department of Defence
PO Box 7925
CANBERRA ACT 2610

1 February 2013