



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Estate and Infrastructure Group

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REF: AF22749088

Your Ref: SSD 13_6039

Neville Osborne
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Mr Osborne

RE: Biala Wind Farm Project (SSD 13_6039) – Notice of Exhibition

The Department of Defence (Defence) would like to thank the Department of Planning and Environment for referring this matter to Defence. Defence understands that Newtricity has submitted a development application for the Biala Wind Farm Project.

Defence has previously commented on the Aeronautical Impact Assessment, which is included within the development application, in March 2015 (Attachment 1). Defence wishes to advise that the comments remain current.

Defence notes that AirServices Australia is now the point of contact for the reporting of tall structures. Therefore the proponent should provide “as constructed” details to AirServices Australia rather than RAAF Aeronautical Information Services.

Should you have any questions my point of contact on this matter is Mr Sean Wilkinson who can be contacted on (02) 6266 8201 or via email at DSRGIDEP.ExecutiveSupport@defence.gov.au

Yours faithfully

Anthony Farrell

Director Estate Planning ACT/NSW

3 September 2015

Attachments

1. Defence Submission Biala Wind Farm – Aeronautical Impact Assessment

Attachment 1 - Defence Submission Biala Wind Farm – Aeronautical Impact Assessment



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Department of Defence
Defence Support and Reform Group

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REF: AF20854640

**General Manager
Aviation Projects
2/43 Upper Brookfield Road
Brookfield QLD 4069**

ATTN: Keith Tonkin

Dear Mr Tonkin

RE: Biala Wind Farm – Aeronautical Impact Assessment

The Department of Defence (Defence) would like to thank Aviation Projects for providing Defence an opportunity to comment on the Biala wind farm. Defence understands that the applicant is seeking approval to construct and operate a wind farm facility with up to 31 wind turbines. The proposal is located approximately 8km east of Biala in the Upper Lachlan Local Government Area.

There is an ongoing requirement to obtain and maintain accurate information about tall structures. The risk posed by a tall structure to aircraft safety can be minimised if information on the tall structure is conveyed to pilots so that they can fly at a safe margin above the structure. The RAAF Aeronautical Information Service (RAAF AIS) in Melbourne 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 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 structure will meet the above definition of tall structure. Defence therefore requests that the Developer provide RAAF AIS with "as constructed" details. 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.

Defence requests that the Wind Farm should be lit in accordance with Civil Aviation Safety Regulation 139 and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Manual of Standards 139. If Light-Emitting Diode (LED) obstruction lighting is applied to the Wind Farm, the frequency range of the emitted LED light is requested to fall within the wavelength range of 655 to 930 nanometres. This will enable the lighting to be visible to persons using night vision devices.


Defence understands that Aviation Projects have forwarded this application to AirServices Australia for assessment.

Defence does not object to this project subject to clearance and Aviation Projects' adherence to conditions provided by AirServices Australia and CASA requirements.

To mitigate potential impacts to Defence activities, Defence requests to be consulted should there be any subsequent modification in wind turbine height or scale of development.

Should you have any questions my point of contact on this matter is Mr Nick Parker and he can be contacted on (02) 6266 8201 or via email at nick.parker1@defence.gov.au.

Yours faithfully



Anthony Farrell

Director Estate Planning ACT/NSW

2 March 2015