

Australian Government

Civil Aviation SafetyAuthority

AIRSPACE AND AERODROME REGULATION *File Ref:* GI20/496

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Ms Tatsiana Bandaruk A/Senior Environmental Assessment Officer Energy Assessments Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 4 Parramatta Square 12 Darcy Street PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Tatsiana.bandaruk@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Bandaruk,

Uungula Wind Farm (SSD 6687) – Request for Advice on Environmental Impact Assessment – CASA ASSESSMENT

CASA has reviewed the aeronautical impact assessment for the proposed Uungula Wind Farm (SSD 6687).

CASA's assessment was conducted in accordance with the National Airports Safeguarding Framework (Guideline D) as developed by the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

The proposed development comprises of 97 turbines at a finished height of 250 m AGL, located approximately 13 km from Wellington Aerodrome.

The turbines will reach to a height of 825 ft AGL and will infringe navigable airspace by 325 ft.

CASA advises that the risk to VFR, Night VFR or IFR pilots complying with rules of the air is assessed as low. However, CASA cannot eliminate the risk that is posed to the safety of flight by an obstacle being erected in navigable airspace. An aircraft is legally permitted to operate in the vicinity of the wind farm and as such, there will always be a risk to the safety of flight.

Therefore, CASA advises that the wind farm requires hazard lighting at night. International Standards recommend the use of medium intensity aviation hazard lights emitting 2,000 candela for obstacles this high, with low intensity lighting around the mid point of the tower, however given the lack of development (and resultant light pollution that will reduce the effectiveness of hazard lighting) in the immediate vicinity, CASA will accept lighting at the top of the tower only, with no lower than 200 candela which would be sufficient to achieve the mitigation required to enable see and avoid action by a pilot.

The proponent of the wind farm has a duty of care to ensure the development does not present a hazard to aircraft operators.

- The coordinates and estimated survey heights of each turbine must be reported to the Airservices Australia Vertical Obstacle Database email address <u>vod@airservicesaustralia.com</u> once Development Approval is granted to ensure that the location of the Wind Farm can be mapped for the information of pilots. Changes to maps can take in excess of six months.
- <u>One month prior to works commencing</u> Airservices must be contacted via the VOD email address so that a NOTAM (Notice to Airmen) can be published by Airservices advising pilots that construction of tall structures in the area is imminent.
- On completion of works, the VOD should be advised of the surveyed height and location of each turbine so that the wind farm details can be accurately recorded in the database.

CASA would be pleased to answer any questions on 131 757.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Windebank Aerodrome Engineer