



Australian Government
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

AIR NAVIGATION, AIRSPACE AND AERODROMES

CASA Ref: GI17794

17 October 2017

Ms Dianna Mitchell
Senior Planning Officer
NSW Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Mitchell,

COPPABELLA WIND FARM

Thank you for your correspondence dated 20 September requesting CASA comment with regard to the proposed Coppabella Wind Farm (Yass Valley Wind Farm) in NSW.

CASA had assessed the 'Aviation Impact Assessment' document as published on the Departments webpage consistent with our obligations under Guideline D of the National Airports Safeguarding Framework (NASF). The wind farm will include up to 79 wind turbines with a maximum height of up to 171 m above ground level (AGL).

Airservices advice had not been received by the date of writing however the Aeronautical Assessment indicated that a number of turbines will infringe the ATC clearance plane for the Mt Bobbara radar. Consultation with Airservices on a suitable solution to eliminate radar interference will be required.

The assessment also indicates that WTG9 will infringe the 1000 ft minimum obstacle clearance for the 25nm MSA for Cootamundra Airport by 4.6 m. CASA notes and accepts that this can be mitigated through micro siting or detailed design of site levels.

CASA recommends that the proponent develop a lighting plan and light the wind farm with steady red medium intensity lighting at night, consistent with the provisions of NASF Guideline D.

Should such lighting be considered a negative impact on visual amenity and result in resident objection, CASA notes the availability of Aircraft Detection Lighting Systems (refer United States Federal Aviation Administration Advisory Circular AC 70/7460-1L CHG1 – Obstruction Marking and Lighting). Such a system would only activate the lights when an aircraft is detected in the near vicinity and deactivate the lighting once the aircraft passed.

CASA notes that the proponent has installed wind monitoring towers at the site. CASA recommends that the proponent ensure these towers are marked in accordance with NASF Guideline D.

Any decision to require or to not require lighting remains with the planning authority to determine.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A Tiede'.

Andrew Tiede
Manager, Air Navigation, Airspace and Aerodromes
cc. Ms Raelene Corner, Aviation Projects