Strategy and Policy Group Windfarm Policy



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10 November 2023 Ref Windfarms / Earraghail

Dear Jim,

Proposed Updated Obstacle Lighting Scheme for Earraghail Wind Farm

Reference: Earraghail Wind Farm Aviation Lighting Plan Drawing EAR-I-032 revision D, dated 13 October 2023

1. Thank you for the report at reference, which discusses the proposed obstacle lighting plan for the Earraghail Wind Farm.

2. The proposed Earraghail Wind Farm consists of 13 turbines, with blade tip heights of 180m above ground level, which brings them within scope of the Air Navigation Order (ANO) Article 222 obstacle lighting requirements.

3. We have considered the proposed reduced lighting scheme carefully and take note of the intent to address concerns relating to adverse visual impacts of aviation lighting on non-aviation receptors while ensuring that the lighting installed on the turbines meets air safety requirements. This includes some mitigation is proposed to be provided by the provision of infra-red lighting for those operators who carry Night Vision Device capability.

4. Under provisions given in the Air Navigation Order (ANO) Article 222 section 6, the CAA provides for the following variation:

• Medium intensity steady red (2000 candela) lights on the nacelles of turbines T01, T03, T05, T06, T07, T09, T11, T12 and T14;

• a second 2000 candela light on the nacelles of the above turbines to act as an alternative in case of failure of the main light (note that both lights should not be lit at the same time);

the lights on these turbines to be capable of being dimmed to 10% of peak intensity when the lowest visibility as measured at suitable points around the wind farm by visibility measuring devices exceeds 5km;
infra-red lights to MoD specification installed on the nacelles of turbines T01, T02,

• infra-red lights to MoD specification installed on the nacelles of turbines T01, T02, T03, T04, T05, T06, T07, T08, T09, T11, T12, T13 and T14. Note that dimming permission is applicable only to visible lights, not infra-red lighting.

5. If the proposed design of the wind farm changes (other than variations due to micrositing etc.) this is likely to require a revision to this aviation obstacle lighting variation.

6. This variation letter supersedes the one dated 8 September, reflecting a renumbering of some of the turbines.

7. Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Awells

Andy Wells Manager Aviation and Wind Farm Policy