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OPERATION OF AIRCRAFT

SAFETY

WIND FARM TURBINE SITES

☛ Indicates changes.

☛ This AIC replaces AIC 21 4 dated 19 SEP 2013.

1. ☛ The Construction of wind turbine towers will increase in frequency at various locations, as developers receive final approval for the proposed sites and structures. There may be more than one wind turbine at a particular site. The turbine towers will vary from approximately 20m up to 160m in height, with the accompanying turbine blade adding to the total height of the structure. The blade length may be more than half the turbine tower height.
2. ☛ Turbine structures will be regarded as temporary structures during the construction phase, with temporary obstruction lighting in place, until such time as the wind farm becomes operational. An interim lighting system is required to be implemented. Temporary obstruction lighting in the form of a Type B (low intensity) 32 candela red flashing light system, situated at the highest point of the structure in progress would suffice for the construction period.
3. ☛ It is recognized the interim lighting system will be flashing randomly, hence the requirement for each turbine structure to be identified.
4. ☛ The temporary obstruction lighting must be brought into play at 25m and continue to be displayed at the highest point, until such time as the required permanent obstruction lighting system is on line.
5. Permanent obstruction lighting will operate in a synchronized manner and be placed on the turbine nacelle/hub.
6. Pilots are reminded that the obstruction lighting will be placed on the turbine nacelle/hub at two thirds height of the completed turbine structure. The turbine blades will not be marked.
7. The obstruction lighting placed on the turbine nacelle/hub, will present variable facades to the observer, dependent on wind direction.
8. Both turbine tower and blades will appear to be white in colour and no other obstruction markings, apart from lighting will be applied.
9. The aviation community will be advised via the Notice to Airman (NOTAM) process prior to the commencement of building operations at a wind farm site.



DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION