



National Emerging Aviation Technologies— Consultative Committee Meeting

Monday 6 December 2021

The National Emerging Aviation Technologies (NEAT) Consultative Committee, chaired by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the Department), met on 6 December 2021 to discuss implementation of NEAT initiatives.

Discussion focused on the Emerging Aviation Technology Partnerships (EATP) program, drone noise regulations, the Drone Rule Management System (DRMS) and privacy guidance.

- **EATP:** The EATP program, announced as part of the Digital Economy Strategy earlier in 2021, will open shortly for applications following the release of the program guidelines. More information on EATP is available in the Forecast Opportunity released on 7 September 2021, and is available from the [Department's website](#) or [GrantConnect](#).
- **Improved drone noise regulations:** Following public consultation on a regulation impact statement for improved drone noise management, the Department has amended *the Air Navigation (Aircraft Noise) Regulations 2018* to better manage the drone noise. These amendments were made on 9 December 2021, with a three-month transition period to allow operators to familiarise themselves with the amendments. Guidance material on the application of the amended regulations, including the steps for operators to comply with the regulations, will be provided on the department's website in January 2022, as well as shared with stakeholders ahead of the amendments taking effect.
- **DRMS:** Following on from the last meeting, the Department shared the regulatory landscape, rationale, principles and proposed ICT ecosystem for DRMS. Next steps for DRMS are for the Department to:
 - develop technical requirements for the DRMS ICT solution
 - further develop the DRMS rule and governance framework
 - explore legislative options to support the operation of DRMS.
- **Privacy guidance:** The department is working with state and territory governments to undertake a stock take on the range of privacy laws across Australia, to provide best practice guidance to operators. A summary of the stock take will be shared with the committee once it is complete.

Other issues discussed by the committee included the variation in state and territory rules on drones, integration of data and consistent processes, infrastructure for existing and emerging aviation technologies and future airspace design.

The next meeting of the committee is proposed to occur in the first quarter of 2022 with the possibility of the meeting being face-to-face.

Attendees

Name	Organisation/position
Richard Wood	DITRDC/First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology & Services Division (Chair)
Reece Clothier	Australian Association for Unmanned Systems/President
Adam Welsh	DJI/Head of Public Policy, APAC
Jesse Suskin	Wing/Head of government Relations and Public Policy
Andrew Moore	AMSL Aero,/CEO
Zac Kennedy	Swoop Aero/Director of Regulatory Strategy
Clem Newton-Brown	Skyportz/Director
Meg Kummerow	National Farmers Federation (NFF)/CEO of Fly the Farm and member of the NFF
Natasha Santha	LEK Consulting Australia/Partner
Terry Martin	Revolution Aero/Queensland University of Technology/CEO/Professor
Rachel Smith	Australian Logistics Council/Interim CEO
Michael Monck	Recreational Aviation Australia/Chairman
Naa Opoku	DITRDC/Assistant Secretary, Safety and Future Technology Branch
Hugh Ross	DITRDC/Acting Director, Safety and Future Technology Branch
Geraldine Cusack	DITRDC/Assistant Director, Safety and Future Technology Branch
Jenny McGann	DITRDC/Secretariat, Safety and Future Technology Branch
Apology	
Jackie Dujmovic	Hover UAV/Founder & CEO