



In reply please quote

29 October 2019

Dear Jim and Sharyn,

Re: Progress Review – State/Territory Implementation of the National Airports Safeguarding Framework

The Bureau of Meteorology (Bureau) provided feedback on 12 October 2017 to the National Airports Safeguarding Advisory Group public exhibition draft of the updated National Airports Safeguarding Framework (NASF). In collaboration with the department, our draft inclusions were published in the latest version of the NASF. It has been two years hence, and whilst the inclusions have created a greater awareness of the impact of airport infrastructure of the effectiveness of aviation meteorological equipment we would like to provide the following feedback to the review:

- NASF is national guidance for a consistent approach to land use planning around airports but the lack of legislative power behind the framework is prohibiting it's effective implementation at any level of government; and
- *Airports Act 1996* provides legislative protections to the operation of airports in Australia at select federally leased airports. It is our experience that infrastructure development at all other airports, including private holdings, is not well regulated resulting in impacts to the effectiveness of aviation meteorological equipment. This has caused the Bureau to reconsider the provision of services at some airports.

There have been multiple cases of building generated windshear and turbulence which have impacted the operational aviation meteorological equipment at the airports leading to aviation incidents. In some cases the meteorological equipment on the airport has had to be moved, decommissioned or its use restricted to mitigate the impact to aircraft. The meteorological equipment we refer to supports the provision of ICAO mandated meteorological products such as METAR/SPECI and TAF services, and supports safe and efficient air traffic flow management and runway selection.

Ideally the Bureau would like to see the guidelines become binding requirements through statutory means.

Regards,

Alicia Tuppack
Manager, Meteorological Authority Office
Bureau of Meteorology