



**Australian Government**

**Civil Aviation Safety Authority**

Air Navigation Airspace & Aerodromes Branch

## **Terms of reference for a Preliminary Airspace Review of the Pilbara basin within a 100 nautical mile radius of Coondewanna airport**

### **Background**

The Office of Airspace Regulation (OAR) undertakes regular reviews of Australian-administered airspace in accordance with the *Airspace Act 2007*. As a result of the airspace review process, airspace changes may be instigated.

In exercising a diligent approach, the OAR periodically conducts Preliminary Airspace Reviews to determine that the volumes of airspace in the study area remain fit for purpose and safe for all airspace users.

### **Objectives**

The objective of the review is to evaluate the fitness for purpose of the airspace within 100 nautical miles radius of Coondewanna airport (YCWA) from the surface up to Flight Level 180 in the Pilbara basin. The review will focus on the high concentration of resource industry aviation operations. Whilst recognising that safety is the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's primary consideration, the review will consider the impacts of airspace against the following:

- efficient use of the airspace
- equitable access to the airspace for all airspace users
- national security issues
- cost of any recommendations of the review with the primacy of safety
- environment issues including weather phenomena
- appropriateness of the airspace classification
- appropriateness of the services and facilities provided by the air navigation service provider (ANSP) including communication, navigation and surveillance.

### **Scope**

The scope of the review shall include:

- airspace architecture which allows the ANSP to provide air traffic management safely and effectively
- airspace architecture which is fit for purpose appropriate to the range of aeronautical activities conducted
- an evaluation of air routes as applicable to the objectives
- an evaluation of existing infrastructure to effectively support communication, navigation and surveillance in the volumes of airspace operating in the basin
- an analysis of risks supported by safety incident reporting from the ANSP and the Australian Transport Safety Bureau
- the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) airspace classifications
- restricted and danger areas and their impact on traffic flow
- other issues determined by the review team to be applicable to the objectives.

The following is outside the scope of the review:

- any airport infrastructure issues
- issues deemed not relevant to the study.

### **Duration**

It is anticipated that the review process will take approximately six months from review approval until a document can be released to industry for final consultation. The target completion date for this review is June 2020. The review will focus from January 1 2016 to November 30 2019.

### **Consultation Process**

The OAR will undertake both internal and external consultation. External consultation will include key stakeholders such as:

- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development
- Department of Defence
- Airservices Australia
- Australian Transport Safety Bureau
- CASA human performance specialist
- CASA fatigue management specialist
- State and Federal Government Departments as appropriate
- Local Councils
- Aerodrome owners and airport operators
- Domestic passenger transport and freight operators
- Known charter operators
- Emergency services operators
- Resident aircraft maintenance organisations
- Resident flying training organisations
- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of Australia (AOPA)
- Regional Aviation Association of Australia (RAAA)
- Recreational Aviation Association of Australia (RA-Aus)
- Australian Parachute Federation (APF)
- Australian Balloon Federation (ABF)
- Gliding Federation of Australia (GFA)
- Australian and International Pilots Association (AIPA)
- Australian Airports Association (AAA)
- Interested community groups.