Application for amendment to Wellington control zone and terminal control area boundaries

- airspace user consultation

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Introduction

Controlled airspace is designated in areas where there is a need for an air traffic control service to be provided for the safety and efficiency of aircraft operations and is intended to be as small as practicable to safely protect IFR routes and procedures.

The implementation of new performance based navigation (PBN) procedures, primarily utilising satellite navigation technologies, has required amendment to controlled airspace boundaries to ensure that IFR aircraft continue to be contained within controlled airspace where the Director has deemed it necessary.

The provider of air traffic services in New Zealand, Airways Corporation of New Zealand Ltd (Airways), is progressively introducing new PBN instrument procedures as part of their PBN Implementation Plan.

Civil aviation rule 71.11 requires the Director to review each current airspace designation and classification every 5 years to verify the continuing need for the airspace. The CAA 2015-2018 Airspace Review document (<u>http://www.caa.govt.nz/airspace/airspacereview/#Plan</u>) details the current review process which is being undertaken on a regional basis, and aligned where possible with the Airways' PBN Implementation Plan.

Background

At the three major international airports – Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch – there was no specific date set for PBN implementation and new procedures would be introduced on a rolling basis.

Airways has reviewed all of the control zone dimensions to align with the Part 71 rule requirements for controlled airspace to be as small as practicable to protect the flight paths of IFR aircraft.

Airways' proposal

To contain new PBN procedures, and following review of existing procedures which will be retained, Airways submitted a petition mid-December to amend the Wellington control zone and associated airspaces as follows:

- 1. amend the Wellington control zone NZA659 and sectors; and
- 2. amend Wellington control areas NZA635 (LL 1500 ft), NZA637 (LL 2500 ft) and NZA640 (LL 4500 ft); and
- 3. amend the boundary of transit lane NZT656 Porirua; and
- 4. designate a new transit lane near Turakirae Head; and
- 5. delete four visual reporting point (VRP) and add four new VRP.

Due to the size of the petition, it is not practical to summarise the information contained in this document. Instead, please refer to the copy of Airways' petition which is available on the Airspace Review website at the following link:

http://www.caa.govt.nz/airspace/airspace-review/.

Overall, the size of the Wellington control zone is reduced, and terminal control areas extended over the airspace within the old control zone boundaries.

The main changes which would affect VFR users of the airspace in the vicinity of Turakirae Head, and the proposed new VFR transit lane. The existing NZT656 Porirua VFR transit lane would also be substantially amended as most of the transit lane would be outside controlled airspace.

Consultation

Civil Aviation Rule 71.9 requires the Director to consult with affected persons, organisations and representative groups within the aviation industry before making a designation or classification of airspace.

The Director invites feedback in regard to the proposed controlled airspace changes.

This document will be sent directly to the organisations listed below. It would be appreciated if you would kindly forward the document to your members for consideration and comment.

Aerodrome operators (charted aerodromes/heliports shown on VNC C2, lower North Island only)

- Avalon heliport (TVNZ Avalon Studios Ltd)
- Kenepuru Hospital heliport (Capital and Coast District Health Board)
- Paraparaumu aerodrome (Kapiti Districts Holding Ltd)
- Queens Wharf heliport (Wellington Helicopters)
- Wellington aerodrome (Wellington International Airport Ltd)
- Wellington Hospital heliport (Capital and Coast District Health Board)

Operators, Organisations and User Groups

- Air2There
- Air Freight NZ Ltd (Life Flight)
- Air New Zealand Group includes Mount Cook and Air Nelson
- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
- Airways Corporation of New Zealand
- Airwork Flight Operations
- Balloon Association of New Zealand

- Gliding New Zealand
- Hood User Group
- Jet Connect
- Jetstar Airways Ltd
- Jetstar Regional
- Kapiti Districts Aero Club
- Massey School of Aviation
- Model Flying New Zealand
- New Zealand Agricultural Aviation Association
- New Zealand Airline Pilots Association
- New Zealand Army
- New Zealand Aviation Federation
- New Zealand Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association
- New Zealand Helicopter Association
- New Zealand Parachute Federation
- New Zealand Parachute Industry Association
- · Qantas Airways Ltd
- Recreational Aircraft Association of New Zealand
- Royal New Zealand Air Force
- Soundsair
- Sport Aircraft Association New Zealand
- Sport Aviation Corp
- Virgin Australia
- Wellington Aero Club
- Wellington Helicopters

This document is also available on the CAA website at the following link:

http://www.caa.govt.nz/airspace/airspace-review/

Notifications will be sent to CAA email notification subscribers to Airspace Notifications – Briefing Areas 3, 5 and 6.

If there are any further questions regarding the review process, please contact Paula Moore – contact details below.

Submissions

Prior to making a designation or classification of airspace, Civil Aviation Rule 71.9 requires the Director to consult with all parties that may be affected within the aviation industry.

This document forms part of the consultation process. Submissions are sought from any interested person, organisation or representative group to provide further information relevant to this proposal.

Submissions are accepted either electronically or via mail.

Please address submissions to:

Group Executive Officer Aviation Infrastructure and Personnel Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand PO Box 3555 Wellington 6140

Fax: 04 569 2024

Email: dianne.parker@caa.govt.nz

Reference – 2018 Wellington control zone amendment.

Closing date for submissions is Thursday 1 March 2018.

Further information

For further information contact:

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