

## Ralph B Holland

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**From:** Ralph B Holland <ralph@arising.com.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 8 November 2012 23:11  
**To:** 'Smith-Roberts, Jennifer'  
**Cc:** ceo@casa.gov.au; burrinjuck@parliament.nsw.gov.au;  
senator.humphries@aph.gov.au; warren.truss@aph.gov.au;  
'susan.ley.mp@aph.gov.au'; council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au;  
ralph@arising.com.au  
**Subject:** RE: FOI request for information regarding: Project AS 06/07 Assessment of obstacles including wind turbines and exhaust plumes [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** 201211081537.pdf.pdf.pdf

Dear Jennifer,

I am sorry if it looks to me from where I am sitting that public safety seems to come down to the practical inability to process 522 pages of project material.

Because it took your department nearly 27 days to inform me of the practical refusal of my FOI request; the longer I waited the more I thought CASA does not want this material released, even though I thought safety was of utmost importance to your organisation.

I am not after private material, and correspondence of a trivial matter, I am after the Project Report, the letter of closure, and any substantive material supporting the conclusions in the report; a safety project that was closed and a report that was never released.

I am not after references that are freely accessible and already in the public domain, the citations to such material will do.

I am also not interested in the DOIT guidelines – I have these too; I am after the report and conclusions of the project, any determinations of hazards, safe operating distances, calculations and the like involving wind turbines and the hazard to aircraft that they represent, and representations and correspondences that you may have made to ICAO regarding this project, and wind turbines in particular.

I am also interested whether this material has adequately addressed the turbine wake plumes, which is their most dangerous aspect, and one that is largely ignored by more than one state of Aviation.

There is a glaring disparity between the European treatment of Wind Turbines and lack of treatment in this country – there being no legislation, and no longer any CASA advisories nor warnings of the hazards, and inadequate DOIT guidelines that do not even mention the turbine wakes.

I am also not conducting a Senate enquiry here, I leave that to the senators who are watching on.

If we must I am confident that we can revise this FOI request to expedite it as stated in my original request – this is a public safety matter – and it is a public request.

Should the life of pilots and their passengers be balanced against your costs on a user pays basis? I am sick of hearing affordable safety – you would not be saying that if it were you flying your aircraft into a turbine wake plume or negotiating wind turbines within the circling area of an aerodrome, and should that happen I hope that you would be asking who let this happen?

I will contact you by phone tomorrow to discuss. If it helps I would be able to come into the office and sit down and go through the Trim/Database indexes and determine from the document titles whether they are relevant, or cite any other material which would assist in this process.

In my dealings with the public I ask myself will what I have said, and what I commit to, pass the Canberra Times test? I would hope that you would agree with me that that principle also applies to your department, and that it will not be the view of the public and industry that the "S" has been dropped from CASA.

BTW in my opinion SECURITY UNOFFICIAL is a strange classification, ought it not be UNCLASSIFIED with an OFFICIAL caveat; for I was informed that email is legally an official correspondence or am I wrong and my understanding is incorrect?

Yours sincerely,

Ralph Holland

02 6127 1287

0417 312869

[www.arising.com.au/aviation/windturbines](http://www.arising.com.au/aviation/windturbines)

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**From:** Smith-Roberts, Jennifer [mailto:Jennifer.Smith-Roberts@casa.gov.au]

**Sent:** Thursday, 8 November 2012 16:41

**To:** Ralph B Holland

**Subject:** RE: FOI request for information regarding: Project AS 06/07 Assessment of obstacles including wind turbines and exhaust plumes [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

**UNOFFICIAL**

Good afternoon Mr Holland

Please find attached my letter to you in relation to your Freedom of Information Request.

Kind regards

Jennifer Smith-Roberts

Freedom of Information and Finance Officer

**Legal Services Division**

**Civil Aviation Safety Authority**

Ph: 02 6217 1445

Fax: 02 6217 1607

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**From:** Ralph B Holland [mailto:[ralph@arising.com.au](mailto:ralph@arising.com.au)]

**Sent:** Friday, 19 October 2012 10:42 AM

**To:** Freedom of Information

**Cc:** "[angus.taylor@nsw.liberal.org.au](mailto:angus.taylor@nsw.liberal.org.au)"@casacav01.intellicentre.net.au; [susan.ley.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:susan.ley.mp@aph.gov.au); [angus.taylor@bigpond.com](mailto:angus.taylor@bigpond.com); [ElectorateOffice.Burrinjuck@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ElectorateOffice.Burrinjuck@parliament.nsw.gov.au); [council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au); Paul Phelan; Chief Executive Officer; Paul Phelan

**Subject:** FOI request for information regarding: Project AS 06/07 Assessment of obstacles including wind turbines and exhaust plumes

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am seeking the project material from the closed CASA project Project AS 06/07 Assessment of obstacles including wind turbines and exhaust plumes in the interest of public safety.

As you may be aware there is currently no legislation covering the protection of aerodromes from wind turbine obstructions, turbulence and wake plumes, and although the DOIT Guidelines D is an attempt to furnish guidelines, there still is no legislation.

My understanding was the Project AS 06/07 was to address this deficiency, having resulted from industry lobbying the authorities, and by your website's own admission Project AS 06/07 established a report that was never released.

I am formally requesting this report under FOI, and ALL substantive related project material, including the alleged letter of closure sent from the Department of Infrastructure and Transport.

I intend to use this information to strengthen my educational material so we may draw the correct conclusions as to what represents a safe distance for aircraft to operate from these wind turbines, with the view to assist any airport owner and pilot to make their own judgements, and to assist with the planning processes.

Since this request is related to public safety I am sure that you will be happy to expedite the processing and forward the requested documents and information at minimum cost to me.

Yours sincerely,

Ralph Holland  
8 Hardy Pl  
Kambah, ACT 2902