



August 2013

## Aerial Spraying Questions and Answers

### Background information

Yorke Peninsula Wind Farm Project Pty Ltd (YPWFP) the owner of the CERES project, has signed an Agreement with Aerotech Australasia Pty Ltd (the sole provider of aerial spraying services on the Yorke Peninsula) that ensures that the wind farm will have no impact on the ability for adjacent landowners to continue to receive fixed wing agricultural spraying services without change to service, quality and cost.

Wind farms generally do not operate in low wind conditions, which is when aerial spraying is undertaken to avoid spray drift. However as further safeguards, the Agreement provides that when aerial spraying is undertaken on land adjacent to the Ceres wind farm, wind turbines near the boundaries of the relevant adjacent non-involved landowner properties will be turned off with the blades aligned to be parallel to the flight path of the fixed wing aircraft.

The Agreement specifically provides for:

- Clearance between turbine blades and the boundary of the land being sprayed of at least 60 metres, and typically more including roadways between properties
- At Aerotech's election, wind turbines within 500 metres of the boundaries of the land being sprayed to be turned off to eliminate any risk of turbulence.

**Here we answer the most common questions about what the Agreement means for adjacent and nearby landowners:**

**1. Will my aerial spraying service prices increase as a result of the CERES wind farm being built, or as a result of the agreement with Aerotech?**

No. There will be no increase in your aerial spraying prices as a result of the CERES wind farm being built, nor as result of the agreement with Aerotech.

**2. Will my aerial spraying services change in terms of timing, delivery or quality?**

No. There will be no change to your aerial spraying services in terms of timing delivery and quality arising from the CERES wind farm being built, nor from the agreement with Aerotech.

**3. Is the Aerotech agreement binding? And if so for how long?**

The Aerotech agreement is legally binding and will apply for the lifetime of the wind farm which is planned to be 25 years.

**4. What happens if Aerotech on-sells its business?**

Aerotech may sell or assign its agreement rights and obligations to another party that is deemed suitable to provide the aerial spraying services. This is designed to ensure continuity of service and meeting the agreement's objectives of no change to service, quality and cost.

**5. What happens if YPWFP sells the CERES project?**

The rights and obligations of the Aerotech agreement will transfer to the new owner ensuring no change for adjacent landowners.

**6. Why is the agreement with Aerotech and not with the adjacent landowners?**

The agreement is with Aerotech as its staff are the aviation experts with the expertise to undertake the risk assessment and determine the safe operating protocols required to undertake and maintain the aerial spraying services adjacent to the wind farm.

**7. What happens if other aerial spraying contractors/service providers wish to provide an alternative service? And what does this mean for adjacent/nearby landowners?**

Currently Aerotech is the sole provider of services in the region. Should other aerial spraying contractors enter the market to provide an alternative service, we will offer the same terms as in the Aerotech agreement.

**8. What, if any, impact will the Ceres wind farm have on ground spraying?**

The wind farm will have no impact on ground spraying.

**9. What consultation has been undertaken in relation to aerial spraying by the CERES project with key stakeholders (including landowners - involved and adjacent/nearby)?**

The matter was first raised in sessions held in Community Open Days in October 2011 and then again in December 2011.

Preliminary consultation with adjacent and nearby landowners occurred with a formal request for submissions in January 2012. This was followed by providing the Ambidji Report (on aerial agricultural impact from fixed winged aircraft) to those parties in January 2013.

That report and an update of that report were made public as part of the Development Assessment Commission's consultation process.

Since January 2013 submissions made to DAC have been reviewed and have been incorporated into the solution embodied in the agreement with Aerotech signed in late July 2013. A letter informing landowners of no change to their current practices was then sent.

**10. What is the planning policy principle in relation to impacts on aerial agricultural services (aerial spraying) and how does the CERES project comply?**

The planning policy principle that applies to aerial agricultural services provides that wind farm developments should ".....avoid or minimize interference with low altitude aircraft movements associated with agriculture".

The CERES project more than satisfies that principle through the combination of a fundamental design that employs 600 metres spacing between turbines, no overhead lines and an operational agreement with Aerotech that turns nearby turbines off and re-aligns them parallel to the flight path of fixed winged aircraft.

This ensures that the development of the wind farm results in no change to the aerial spraying practices of adjacent landowners.

**11. How can I be confident the above agreement will be honoured by current and future owners of the wind farm and current and future aerial spraying contractors?**

YPWFP has proposed to the Development Assessment Commission that the wind farm operational constraints covered in the Aerotech agreement be encapsulated as a condition of approval for the CERES Project. This ensures ongoing certainty for adjacent landowners.

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