Request for Permanent Danger Area Todd Energy Limited McKee and Mangahewa Production Station Airspace user consultation

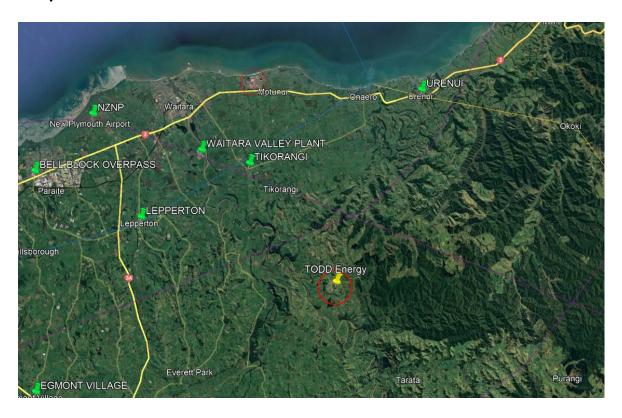
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Introduction

Todd Energy Limited have submitted an airspace application for a permanent danger area at their McKee and Mangahewa Production Station site. The site is located approximately 9 NM south east of New Plymouth Airport. The applicant noted flying within the area may create a risk to the facility due to hazards present on the site, hydrocarbon gas and condensate, and the potential for uncontrolled ignition due to the presence of an ignition source (an aircraft). Additionally, the potential jet efflux the site emitted under consent is a hazard to any aircraft in the area.

Proposed area



The proposed area is bounded by a circle with a .5NM radius centred on position 39 05 33.35 S, 174 20 07.18E. The proposed upper limit is 1700 ft AMSL. The area would be activated permanently (H24).

The second diagram below indicates the extent (.5NM radius) of the proposed danger area. The four red dots indicate the locations of the flares - combusted hydrocarbon gas efflux. The rest of the plant within the area is pressurised with natural gas, up to 70 barg (gauge pressure). Also, there is storage of condensate (a light crude oil). The two blue dots indicate the location of jet efflux from thermal power generation.



Possible effect to IFR aircraft

Aeropath (Aeronautical Information and Flight Procedure Design) confirmed this proposed danger area will not affect the flight procedures to New Plymouth or Hawera aerodromes.

Possible effect to VFR aircraft

CAR 91.129 states that a pilot must not operate an aircraft within a danger area designated under Part 71 unless that pilot has determined that the activity associated with the danger area will not affect the safety of the aircraft.

The proposed area may have a slight impact on VFR aircraft with small deviations required to avoid the area. The area may impact some agricultural operators' procedures; however, Todd Energy Limited commented that staff in the station control room may be contacted at any time for pilots to get a up to date briefing on current hazards and plant conditions at the time.

Consultation

Prior to designating airspace, 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 regarding the proposed airspace change.

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 only)

- Hawera Aerodrome
- New Plymouth Aerodrome
- Stratford Aerodrome
- Norfolk Aerodrome
- Taumarunui Aerodrome

Operators, Organisations and User Groups

- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
- Airways Corporation of New Zealand
- Air New Zealand
- Balloon Association of New Zealand
- New Zealand Aviation Federation
- New Zealand Helicopter Association
- New Zealand Agricultural Aviation Association
- New Zealand Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association
- Recreational Aircraft Association of New Zealand
- Sport Aircraft Association New Zealand
- Sport Aviation Corp
- UAV New Zealand
- Model Flying New Zealand

Notification that this document has been posted online will be sent to CAA email notification subscribers to Airspace Notifications – Briefing Area 3.

This document is also available on the CAA website at the following link: 2022 airspace reviews | aviation.govt.nz

Submissions

This document forms part of the consultation process. Submissions are sought from any interested person, organisation or representative group.

Submissions are accepted either electronically or via mail, addressed to:

Team Coordinator Aviation Security and Infrastructure Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand PO Box 3555 Wellington 6140 Email: aeronautical.services@caa.govt.nz

Reference – 22/ASD/07 McKee and Mangahewa Production Station

Closing date for submissions to this proposal is Monday 21st March 2022

For further information contact:

Julia Fitness Technical Specialist - Aeronautical Services Unit Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand P O Box 3555 Wellington 6140

Email: Julia.fitness@caa.govt.nz