

# AIRPORT PLANNING

## REGIONAL AIRPORTS AUSTRALIA

Ambidji has a significant experience record in assisting clients with the planning and development of their airport and air traffic control infrastructure. Ambidji has undertaken airport planning and review activities on behalf of national governments, international development and aid agencies, as well as for a range of private sector agencies.

### PROJECTS

#### Illawarra (Wollongong Airport)

Recent regional air travel growth in Australia has caused Low Cost Carriers (LCC's) to seek cheaper regional airports for operations, particularly if airports are closely located to the outlays of major cities, such as Avalon in Melbourne.

Ambidji was engaged by the Shellharbour City Council (SCC) to conduct a study on the likelihood of an Australian LCC utilising Illawarra Airport as a destination.



The review included an analysis the airports existing:

- ❖ Runways
- ❖ Runway Navigation and Landing Aids
- ❖ Airport Users

A capability study of a proposed Illawarra upgrade was conducted in relation to the impact on:

- ❖ Runway length and width extensions
- ❖ Runway end safety area (RESA)
- ❖ Aircraft operations
- ❖ Navigation approach systems
- ❖ Pavement runway strength
- ❖ Runway lighting
- ❖ Aircraft noise
- ❖ Airspace and radio procedures
- ❖ Rescue and fire fighting faculties and
- ❖ Airport security

At the time of review, the Australian regional airline market was experiencing a significant pilot shortage. Many airlines were re-evaluating and cancelling services to less profitable ports, in order to make pilots available to more trafficked routes. In conclusion, a requirement of significant capital investment and community consultation would be necessary to upgrade the airport to allow for larger aircraft.

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# AIRPORT PLANNING.....CONTINUED

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### Albury Non Directional Beacon (NDB)

Albury City proposed to purchase a parcel of land on Albury Airport with a view to re-developing it as a Business Park. The re-development required the relocation of the existing navigation aids to new sites on the Airport.



Airservices Australia, the owner of the land and navigation aids, indicated it was prepared to relocate the VHF Omni-Directional Radio Range (VOR) but has no plans to replace the Non-Directional Beacon (NDB).

**Ambidji** was engaged by Albury City to provide an independent assessment on the regulatory requirements and operational rationale for continuing to provide an NDB navigation service, with a view to ensuring that the airport continues to provide the appropriate level of access and capability for potential aircraft owners and operators, and airport users.

The review considered an analysis of the following:

- ❖ Regulatory documentation pertaining to air navigation service;
- ❖ Airservices Australia air navigation systems plan;
- ❖ Stakeholder consultation;
- ❖ Analysis of replacement costs for new NDB equipment; and
- ❖ Site visit to Albury Airport.

### Moruya Airport

The **Ambidji Group** joined with the Lewis Land Group one of Australia's largest privately owned development corporations and APP Corporation, a project management and management services firm, to facilitate safe and sustainable growth of access by air to the Eurobodalla region through effective management, development and active promotion of the Moruya Airport.



Moruya Airport

The project aimed to enhance the natural characteristics of the site by undertaking environmentally sympathetic property development, thereby increasing the appeal of the region to visitors and residents alike, whilst optimising revenue streams necessary to sustain airport operations.

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