

APPROVAL OF AIRSPACE



OVERVIEW

- Background
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CURRENT AS AT
JUNE 2019

BRISBANE'S NEW RUNWAY IS ON TRACK TO OPEN IN MID-2020.

The development of the new runway not only involves the construction of runway pavement, taxiways and navigational aids, it also requires changes to how air traffic control define and manage airspace around Brisbane Airport to allow aircraft to arrive and depart safely using the new runway.

BACKGROUND

The airspace design for Brisbane's new runway was undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Statement and Major Development Plan (EIS/MDP) process which was approved by the Australian Government in 2007. The EIS/MDP and associated documentation is available on Brisbane Airport Corporation's (BAC) website bne.com.au.

As 2020 nears, a review of the airspace design was undertaken in relation to new aviation procedures, technologies or policies that have been introduced since the EIS/MDP approval in 2007.

APPROVAL PROCESS

In order for Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), the government organisation responsible for regulating Australian aviation safety, to approve the airspace volume changes associated with the new runway, Airservices Australia compiled an Airspace Change Proposal (ACP) which outlines the airspace design and accompanying safety assessments for review.

The core component of the ACP were changes to airspace volumes required for the safe operation of Brisbane's new runway.

Airspace volumes are the sections of airspace which are managed by air traffic control and are established to ensure that aircraft arriving to and

departing from Brisbane Airport continue to operate within that airspace.

The airspace volume changes included in the ACP are consistent with the information presented in the EIS/ MDP.

CASA's review and approval process concluded and the airspace volume changes presented in the ACP will be implemented in May 2020, prior to runway operations commencing.

KEY ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Approved airspace change proposals are legislated under the Airspace Regulations 2007. When assessing an ACP, CASA use the following criteria:

- Safety
- Protection of the environment
- Efficient use of airspace
- Equitable access
- National security
- Current and future needs of the Australian aviation industry
- Advances in technology
- International best practice as may be adapted to benefit Australia's aviation environment
- International Civil Aviation Organisation standards and recommended practices.