



Dark Sky Lighting Policy - Carrickalinga

Strategic Reference	Provide leadership, good governance, and efficient, effective and responsive Council services
File Reference / Record No	18/067/229 / NGO233669
Responsibility	Assets and Environment
Version Number	3.0
Effective Date	December 2022
Last Revised Date	April 2024
Minute Book Reference	C24094
Next Review Date	April 2026
Applicable Legislation	Local Government Act 1999 Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 Australian Standards Electricity Act 1996
Related Policies	Nil
Related Procedures / Documents	SA Power Networks Technical Standard – TS101 International Dark Sky Community Program Guidelines 2018 Manual of Legal Responsibilities and Technical Requirements for Traffic Control Devices.

1. Objective

- 1.1. The District Council of Yankalilla recognises the uniqueness and opportunities available to communities within the district to seek recognition from the International Dark-Sky Association as an International Dark Sky Community. This is the case given the limited existing lighting infrastructure within the semi-rural environment and coastal townships, together with the shelter provided from suburban light spill by the hills throughout the district.
- 1.2. The International Dark-Sky Association encourages outdoor lighting practices that will minimise light pollution, glare, light trespass, and sky glow in order to preserve the natural dark of the night sky, prevent lighting nuisances on properties and reduce artificial light effects on wildlife. While maintaining the rural atmosphere and village character of the town and district.

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Council under this Dark Sky Lighting Policy for Carrickalinga aims to:

- 1.2.1. Ensure that Council, other Government bodies and private landholders within an area designated or seeking accreditation as an International Dark Sky Community, understands how they can assist attaining, preserving, and promoting the International Dark Sky Community concept.
- 1.2.2. Ensure all new public lighting within an area designated or seeking accreditation as an International Dark Sky Community, meets the standards and requirements expected by the International Dark Sky Association.
- 1.2.3. Retrofit existing outdoor public lighting within an area designated or seeking accreditation as an International Dark Sky Community, meets the standards and requirements expected by the International Dark-Sky Association.
- 1.2.4. Confirm that the costs for delivery of infrastructure works are to be borne by the groups requesting the Dark Sky infrastructure.

2. Scope

- 2.1. This policy shall only apply to the Designated Area of Carrickalinga Township, while actively seeking or where accreditation has been gained from the International Dark-Sky Association as an International Dark Sky Community. (Note: this Policy can be updated to apply via a further Council Resolution to other areas pending a process which is to include Public Consultation on an updated Draft)

3. Definition

- 3.1. For the purpose of this policy, certain words, phrases and terms used herein shall have the meanings assigned to them by this section:

“Designated Area of Carrickalinga Township”: The area of Carrickalinga, which, in the views of a reasonable person, has the look and feel of a predominantly residential township area; generally locate in the ‘Neighbourhood Zone’ as referenced in the Planning & Design Code.

“Correlated Colour Temperature (CCT)”: A specification of the colour appearance of the light emitted by a lamp, relating its colour to the colour of light from a reference source when heated to a particular temperature, measured in degrees kelvin (K).

“Direct Illumination”: Illumination resulting from light emitted directly from a lamp, luminary or reflector. This does not include light reflected from other surfaces, such as the ground or building faces.

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“International Dark Sky Community”: An International Dark Sky Community (IDSC) is a town, city, municipality or other similar political entity that has shown exceptional dedication to the preservation of the night sky through the implementation and enforcement of quality lighting policies, dark-sky education, and citizen support of the ideal dark skies.

“Floodlight”: A fixture or lamp designed to “flood” an area with light. A specific form of lamp or fixture designed to direct its output in a specific direction. Such lamps are often designated by the manufacturer and are commonly used in residential outdoor lighting. These lights should not emit light above the 45 degree plane and they do not exceed 1,000 lumens.

“Fully Shielded”: An outdoor light fixture designed so that the installed fixture emits no light above the horizontal plane of the lowest part of the fixture. These light fixtures must be shielded in and of themselves. Surrounding structures, like canopies, are not to be considered when determining if the fixture is fully cut off. Fully Shielded fixtures must be appropriately mounted so that the shielding prevents light from escaping above the horizontal and all light is directed downward.

“Light Pollution”: Any adverse effect of non-natural light sources. Often used to denote “sky glow” from cities or towns, but also includes glare, light trespass, visual clutter and other adverse effects of lighting.

“Light Source”: The part of a lighting fixture that produces light, e.g. the bulb.

“Light Trespass”: Light falling where it is not wanted or needed. Spill light falling over property lines that illuminate adjacent grounds or buildings in an objectionable manner.

“Luminaire”: A complete electric light unit.

“Outdoor Light Fitting”: An outdoor electrically powered illuminating lamp or similar device used for lighting structures, parking lots, pathways, service canopies, recreational areas, signs or other similar outdoor lighting uses.

“Recreational Lighting”: Lighting used to illuminate sports fields, ball courts, playgrounds or similar outdoor recreational facilities.

“Spotlight”: A fixture or lamp designed to light a small area very brightly. See definition of Floodlight.

“Unshielded Fixture”: A fixture that allows light to be emitted above the horizontal either directly from the lamp or indirectly from the fixture or reflector. Any fixture not fully cut off.

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4. Policy Statement

- 4.1. The District Council of Yankalilla recognises the uniqueness and opportunities available to communities within the district to seek recognition in the form of accreditation as an International Dark Sky Community. Given the opportunities for various communities to seek this recognition and the complex tenure arrangements (possibility of many hundreds of privately owned parcels of land) within these areas, it is proposed that management of lighting within areas designated or seeking accreditation as International Dark Sky Communities, is considered as two parts.
- 4.2. Public Lighting Infrastructure: being lighting infrastructure owned/managed by Council, government bodies and/or other service authorities for the purpose of lighting public spaces and infrastructure.
- 4.3. Private Infrastructure: focusing on community education, with private landowners being encouraged to upgrade existing external lights to be compliant with the International Dark Sky standards for International Dark Sky Communities.

5. Policy

New Public Infrastructure

- 5.1. If meeting all requirements under Australian Standards and/or other local authority standards, installation of all new Council managed outdoor public lighting shall be in accordance with the minimum requirements for lighting under International Dark Sky Community Program Guidelines (June 2018).
- 5.2. Where possible, Lighting shall be 'Dark Sky Friendly' by considering the following principles:
- Outdoor public lighting should only be installed when deemed necessary and should only be activated when needed.
 - All outdoor lighting should be directed downwards so that light trespass is avoided.
 - Fittings should include light shields so that light is directed downwards and there is no upward lighting.
 - The intensity of outdoor lighting should be appropriate for its intended use.
 - Correlated colour temperature (CCT) of lighting shall be less than 3000K preferably 2000K

Public Street Lighting

- 5.3. The District Council of Yankalilla specify the lowest lighting level category, as indicated in current Australian Standards, to keep the lighting level (and tariff costs) as low as possible; whilst recognising Council's obligations around crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED).

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- 5.4. Installation of all new public street lighting will be to the minimum specifications in accordance with current Australian Standards and utilising standard SA Power Networks luminaires which meet colour temperature requirements under International Dark Sky Community Program Guidelines (June 2018)
- 5.5. For all new street lighting installations shielding and/or aero screen fittings shall be utilised as standard.
- 5.6. Layout for new street lighting shall be prepared by a suitably qualified lighting engineer, ensuring that lighting is minimised while still maintaining minimum standards required under Australian Standards.

Private Development

- 5.7. Lighting plans must be prepared and provided for any new Development Applications that will lead to the development of new external lighting (public or private), this includes land division applications which require street lighting and commercial or residential developments where lighting is proposed (for example, in car park areas, or around buildings). Outdoor lighting plans shall be assessed against lighting principles in the 'International Dark Sky Community Program Guidelines (June 2018)', as well as relevant industry and Australian Standards. To the extent that this Policy can require, those costs are to be borne by the developer.

Existing Infrastructure

- 5.8. Council recognises that existing luminaires and public lighting infrastructure may not meet the requirements for lighting under the 'International Dark Sky Community Program Guidelines (June 2018)'. In these cases, Council will work with communities seeking Dark Sky accreditation to prepare a lighting replacement plan to ensure that public lighting conforms with Dark Sky Standards (as well as current Australian Standards) within a timeframe of no more than 5 years from official recognition of the area as a Dark Sky Community. These works are to be funded or co-funded by the relevant community or community interest group who puts forward the request / application for accreditation.
- 5.9. The District Council of Yankalilla commits to ensuring Dark Sky appropriate lighting will be designed and located accordingly when renewing or upgrading Council owned lighting within an area which has sought (or has received) accreditation.

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Outdoor Recreational and/or Athletic Field Lighting

5.10. To the extent to which this can be controlled through Legislation, Regulation or through Council's own projects, Outdoor Recreational and/or Athletic Field Lighting may be exempted from the strict shielding and short-wavelength emission requirements above provided all of the following conditions are met:

- Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) lighting guidelines (RP-6) are followed according to the appropriate class of play.
- Field lighting is provided exclusively for illumination of the surface of play and viewing stands, and not for any other applications.
- Illuminance levels must be adjustable based on the task (e.g. active play vs. field maintenance).
- Off-site impacts of the lighting will be limited to the greatest practical extent possible.
- A strict curfew requirement (e.g. lights must be extinguished by 10pm/2200h or one hour after the end of play, whichever is the later) is observed.
- Timers must be installed to prevent lights being left on accidentally overnight by automatically extinguishing them.

Illuminated Signs

5.11. Restrictions on the installation and operation of illuminated signs:

- Luminance levels for operation between sunset and sunrise shall not exceed 100 nits (100 candelas per square metre) and as measured under conditions of a full white display; and
- During the first hour after sunset and during the last hour immediately preceding sunrise, sign luminance shall not exceed 100 nits (100 candelas per square meter, cd/m²); and
- Signs may only be illuminated while the associated activity is taking place; for businesses, sign illumination must be extinguished completely during the hours the business is closed; and
- The luminous/illuminated surface area of an individual sign shall not exceed 200 square feet (18.6 square metres)

Restricted Lighting

5.12. To the extent to which this can be controlled through Legislation, Regulation, or through Council's own projects, the following lighting is to be restricted or prohibited within areas covered under this policy;

- Lighting which is directed towards the sky (unless required for safety reasons)
- The use of searchlights, except when used by emergency personnel.
- Lighting on advertisement signage is prohibited, except where it meets the above requirements.

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6. Further Information

This policy will be available for inspection at the Council office listed below during ordinary business hours and provided to interested parties as per Council's Fees and Charges Register. Copies are available to be downloaded, free of charge, from Council's website: www.yankalilla.sa.gov.au/policies

District Council of Yankalilla
1 Charles Street
Yankalilla 5203

Phone: (08) 8558 0200

Fax: (08) 8558 2022

Email: council@yankalilla.sa.gov.au

Office hours: Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm (except public holidays)

7. Grievances

Any grievances in relation to this policy or its application should be forwarded in writing addressed to the Chief Executive Officer of Council.

8. Review Cycle

This document is subject to review in two (2) years from the date of adoption or more frequently if legislation, accreditation or Council requires.

9. Document History

Date	Version	Council Resolution No.	Description of changes
	1.0	C	Adoption of Policy
December 2022	2.0	C22268	Review of Policy – amendments provided by Ashley Wilson of Dark Sky International and Sharolyn Anderson for CRA
April 2024	3.0	C24094	Edits for policy for resubmission provided by Amber Harrison for Dark Sky International and Sharolyn Anderson for CRA.

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