



# ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

*Incorporated in the ACT*

ABN 37 660 297 848

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13 July 2019

Mr Greg Neilson  
Secretary, Astronomical Society of NSW

## Designated Optical Observatory Status

As you are aware, the Astronomical Society of Australia (ASA) has been requested by STANDARDS AUSTRALIA to compile a list of *designated* optical observatories that are judged to be valuable resources for (i) research, (ii) education and (iii) community use.

Thank you for your application for the **Wiruna Observatory** to be considered for *designated* status by the ASA. Your application has been approved by the ASA Council.

The Observatory has been listed with a new number **DO3-50** on the ASA's list of *designated* optical observatories (available on the web at <http://asa.astronomy.org.au/observatories.php>).

Status as a designated observatory will be reviewed every 2 years. Renewing your status will require the submission of a *short* report outlining the activities of your Observatory over the preceding 2 years. This report should cover the nature of the astronomical observations made in the case of amateur astronomical observatories, plus the number of any public visitors. In the case of public observatories, please provide an estimate of the number of visitors and a description of the range of educational activities undertaken. An indication of the number of nights used would also be of interest. The report should also provide any update of the name and address (email if possible) of the current official contact person at the Observatory.

Acceptance as a *designated* observatory does not imply any form of legal status, but it should enhance your case for protection against obtrusive lighting. If you are negotiating a lighting code with your local authority, or hoping to do so, you may wish to contact the ASA and we will endeavor to put you in touch with astronomers who may be able to offer advice.

Our representative on the STANDARDS AUSTRALIA committee and an excellent resource for all lighting-related issues is Professor Fred Watson who may be contacted at <http://www.fredwatson.com.au>.

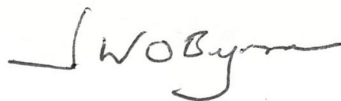
The Standard AS4282 on "Control of the Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting" was issued in October 1997 and revised in 2019 by STANDARDS AUSTRALIA. Although this does not include a lighting code as such, it does provide guidelines for the protection of astronomical sites and we recommend it for your consideration. It can be purchased for a small fee from SAI Global (web address <http://infostore.saiglobal.com/store/>) under licence from STANDARDS AUSTRALIA (<http://www.standards.org.au/>).

Further information on combating light pollution may be found on the web homepage of the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) (<http://www.darksky.org/>). They may also be contacted at:

3223 N. First Ave  
Tucson, AZ 85719  
USA  
Phone: +1 (520) 293-3198  
Fax: +1 (520) 293-3192  
Email: [ida@darksky.org](mailto:ida@darksky.org)  
Home Page: <http://www.darksky.org/>

Good luck with preserving your skies!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.W. O'Byrne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the left.

A/Prof. J.W. O'Byrne  
Secretary, ASA