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June 22, 2016

RE: Mora Municipal Airport  
EA Re-evaluation  
Crosswind Runway Construction and  
Extension of the Primary Runway  
SEH No. MORA0 135108

Greg Yankowizk  
[gregyank@hotmail.com](mailto:gregyank@hotmail.com)

Dear Mr. Yankowizk:

Enclosed for your review is the Environmental Assessment (EA) Written Re-evaluation completed by the FAA Environmental Assessment Re-evaluation for the proposed crosswind runway at the Mora Municipal Airport in Mora, Minnesota.

A written re-evaluation was determined to be necessary for the 2004 Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for Mora Municipal Airport per Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Order 1050.1F, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures, Paragraph 9-2 and FAA Order 5050.4B National Environmental Policy Act, Chapter 1401 C (3). After further investigation, new information revealed that additional resource impacts beyond what was identified in the 2004 EA/FONSI would occur due to the project, thereby necessitating a re-evaluation of the EA.

The EA re-evaluation addresses undisclosed resource impacts that were not covered in the original 2004 EA/FONSI. Additional proposed environmental impacts are a result of further design changes and new endangered species listings since the 2004 EA/FONSI. Resource categories where a change may occur include the following:

1. Utilizing the construction limits; there is proposed to be a conversion of wetland types and additional wetland fill. The original 2004 EA unintentionally omitted this affected resource.
2. The butternut tree was not studied in the original 2004 EA. Since signing of the FONSI, the butternut tree was listed as endangered by the State of Minnesota.
3. The Northern Long Eared Bat (NLEB) and Grey Wolf were not analyzed in the original 2004 EA. Since FONSI signature, the NLEB and Grey Wolf were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
4. Filling and excavating of upland farmland.

Through analysis of new project impacts to environmental resources and comparing these impacts to what was originally identified in the original EA/FONSI, it was concluded that a new EA or supplemental EA is not warranted. Overall project impacts are minor in scope. The additional wetlands filled are

Engineers | Architects | Planners | Scientists

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permissible with the appropriate level of mitigation. Impacts to butternut trees were also permitted. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services was consulted with under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act in which the USFWS concurred with the FAA's finding. The FAA provided updated project information to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the SHPO concurred that the original determination of No Historic Properties Affected is still valid. The purpose and need and alternatives were substantiated. All of these impacts and analyses still fall within the general overall context of the original EA/FONSI.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment Re-evaluation and supporting documentation will be available for review at the following locations during regular business hours through Friday, June 17, 2016. FAA Airports District Office, 6020 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN; Mora City Hall, 101 Lake Street South, Mora, MN; and the Mora Public Library, 200 Maple Avenue West, Mora, MN.

Written comments will be accepted until July 23, 2016. Please direct written comments to:

Mr. Josh Fitzpatrick  
FAA Airports District Office  
6020 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Room 102  
Minneapolis, MN 55450-2706  
(612) 253-4639  
[Joshua.fitzpatrick@faa.gov](mailto:Joshua.fitzpatrick@faa.gov)

Thank you for your attention to this project. If you have any questions, please contact Joshua Fitzpatrick, Environmental Protection Specialist, with the FAA at 651.253.4639 or [Joshua.Fitzpatrick@faa.gov](mailto:Joshua.Fitzpatrick@faa.gov).

Sincerely,

SHORT ELLIOTT HENDRICKSON INC.



Kaci Nowicki  
Aviation Planner

Enclosure

c: Joshua Fitzpatrick, FAA  
Joel Dhein, City of Mora