



ARCATA-EUREKA AIRPORT TERMINAL
McKINLEYVILLE

AVIATION 839-5401

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

MAILING ADDRESS: 1106 SECOND STREET, EUREKA, CA 95501-0579
AREA CODE 707/FAX 445-7409

PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING
SECOND & L ST., EUREKA

ADMINISTRATION	445-7491	NATURAL RESOURCES	445-7741
BUSINESS	445-7652	PARKS	445-7651
ENGINEERING	445-7377	ROADS & EQUIPMENT MAINT.	445-7421
	FACILITY MANAGEMENT	445-7493	

CLARK COMPLEX
HARRIS & H ST., EUREKA

LAND USE 445-7205

April 14, 2010

Mr. Dax Williamson, Chairman
Humboldt County Aviation Advisory Committee
PO Box 1452
Eureka CA 95502

RE: Letter Request Regarding Runway 1 Lighting at ACV

Dear Mr. Williamson:

The Department is still investigating the issues regarding making the Runway 1 lights available for pilot control. As you are aware, I directed our Airport Manager, Ms. Jacque Hulseley to contact our commercial airlines regarding this issue. I have also been in contact with the FAA regarding this issue. Attached I have a draft formal letter to the FAA asking for their assistance that I would like the AAC to review, if possible, at their next meeting. Before I send the letter I want to make sure I have properly captured the concerns of the AAC in your request for pilot controlled lighting of Runway 1.

Additionally, as you know, Mr. Phillip Smith-Hanes, the County Administrative Officer attended the March meeting of the AAC. He indicated that the committee expressed a need for some guidance and assistance on committee processes. If the AAC so desires, our County Counsel is willing to send a Deputy County Counsel to attend the April or May meeting. The Deputy County Counsel would be able to give the AAC guidance on procedure and the Brown Act as well as answer any questions you may have about the proper operation of a Board of Supervisors Advisory Committee.

Thank you for your consideration of these items.

Sincerely,

Thomas K. Mattson, PE
Director of Public Works

Attachment: Draft letter to FAA

April 27, 2010

Mr. Mark McClardy, Manager
FAA Western Region
P.O. Box 92007
Los Angeles, CA 90009-2007

Re: Crosswind Runway 01/19 lighting at Arcata-Eureka Airport (ACV)

Dear Mr. McClardy:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Department of Public Works-Division of Aviation, I am respectfully requesting that the FAA provide any information, circulars, guidance, or recommendations FAA may have regarding pilot-controlled night lighting of crosswind runways at non-towered airports. I have discussed our specific issue briefly with Mr. Chris Diggons with FAA's Runway Safety Field Operations Group. Mr. Diggons indicated that it may be possible for FAA to look into this issue and provide information to us that may be helpful.

ACV is a non-towered airport built by the United States Navy in the 1940's and subsequently turned over to Humboldt County. ACV is Humboldt County's regional commercial service airport serving the North Coast of California. Runway 14/32 is the primary runway with 01/19 serving as the crosswind runway.

For your reference here is a brief history on the crosswind runway (Rwy) 01/19 medium intensity runway lighting (MIRL). Prior to 1998, Rwy 01/19 MIRL was operated by the Flight Service Station personnel as needed. When the FSS ceased operations, the airport manager started receiving complaints from the commercial airlines regarding safety issues such as runway incursions and near-miss situations. These complaints were verified when the airport manager personally witnessed a near-miss at night between a small airplane approaching the crosswind runway and a commercial airline taking off from primary the runway, Rwy 32.

Following the near-miss, the Division adopted a safety policy of operating the primary Runway 14/32 HIRL by a pilot control system and keeping the crosswind runway lights off. For the past eleven years the crosswind Rwy 01/19 has served as a dawn to dusk runway.

Our airport advisory committee, composed primarily of general aviation pilots appointed by the Board of Supervisors to assist in identifying issues throughout the County airport system, is recommending that the Aviation Division have the crosswind runway lights available for pilot control at night. They believe that it is safest for all pilots to have all options available for landing. The Department of Public Works is concerned that this opens up the runway incursion/near-miss issues, reducing the overall safety of the airfield operations.

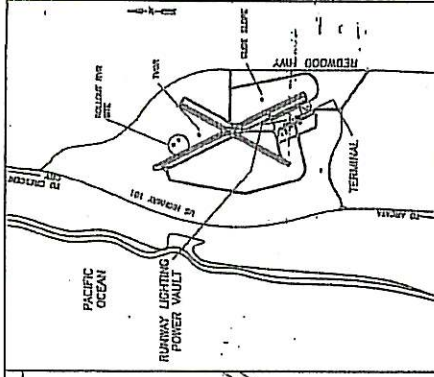
Comparing ACV to other similar non-towered commercial airports is difficult as the airfield has a rare condition due to buildings and land masses. There are critical non-visible areas between the two runways such that a pilot on the ground cannot see the approach to Rwy 01 from either approach to Rwy 14 or 32. Pilots cannot see-or-be-seen in these locations. Attached to this letter is a diagram highlighting the non-visible areas.

Thank you in advance for your willingness to look into this issue. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself at (707) 445-7491 or our Airport Manager, Ms. Jacque Hulsey at (707) 839-5401.

Sincerely,

Thomas K. Mattson, PE
Director of Public Works

Attachment: Airport Runway Layout



SITE DATA:
OWNER: HUMBOLT COUNTY
LOCATION: HUMBOLT AIRPORT, ARCATA, CALIFORNIA
ELEVATION: 124' AS 30" W
ELEVATION: 188' MSL
POWER: FM POWER CABLE
CONTROL: FM CONTROL CABLE

REFERENCE DRAWINGS:
WE-D-643-40032-31-2A SECTIONS AND DETAILS
D-6128-2 RVR MATERIAL SCHEDULE
D-6128-4 SLAB & PIER FOUNDATIONS
D-6128-5 LIGHTING FIXTURE FOUNDATION TOWER
D-6128-6 PLATFORM & SHELF DETAILS
D-6128-7 ANCHOR & STAIRWAY DETAILS
D-6128-8 MAIN PLATFORM STAIRWAY DETAILS
D-6128-9 SUPPORT TOWER LIGHTNING PROTECTION
D-6128-10 WIRING DIAGRAM

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DESIGNED	DRAWN	APPROVED

ARCATA, CALIFORNIA
HUMBOLT COUNTY AIRPORT
GENERAL PLAN
PREPARED BY: [Signature]
DATE: 08/27/91
PROJECT NUMBER: VE-D-643-40032-32-1X

