

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF AERONAUTICS – M.S.#40

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Ms. Ashley Mitchell
P.O. Box 789
Riverside, CA 92502-0789

March 10, 2008

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

Riverside County's Notice of Preparation for a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Public Safety Enterprise Communication Project

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Division of Aeronautics (Division), reviewed the above-referenced document with respect to airport-related noise and safety impacts and regional aviation land use planning issues pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Division has technical expertise in the areas of airport operations safety, noise and airport land use compatibility. We are a funding agency for airport projects, and we have permit authority for public-use and special-use airports and heliports.

The proposal is for the Riverside County Public Safety Enterprise Communication (PSEC) project. The PSEC project would expand the County's radio tower network from the current 20 sites to approximately 70 sites throughout the County. The 50 additional towers range from 40 to 330 feet .

If any of the proposed towers are in the vicinity of an airport, the proposal should be coordinated with the airport owner to ensure that the project will be compatible with future as well as existing airport operations. The proposal should also be submitted to the Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC).

Public Utilities Code Section 21659 prohibits structural hazards on or near airports. In accordance with Federal Aviation Regulation, Part 77 "Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace" a Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration (Form 7460-1) may be required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for certain towers in the vicinity of a public-use airport. Additionally, for towers that exceed 200 feet in height, a Form 7460-1 will be required. Form 7460-1 is available on-line at <https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/portal.jsp> and should be submitted electronically to the FAA.

These comments reflect the areas of concern to the Division with respect to airport-related noise and safety impacts and regional airport land use planning issues. We advise you to contact our Caltrans District 8 office concerning surface transportation issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposal. If you have any questions, please call me at (916) 654-5314.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

SANDY HESNARD
Aviation Environmental Specialist

c: Riverside County ALUC