

ATTACHMENT #1

U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

JUN 30 2010

Office of the Administrator

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski:

Thank you for your May 25 letter, cosigned by Senator Mark Begich, about establishing a Medium Intensity Approach Lighting System with Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (MALSR) to serve runway 26 at Juneau International Airport (JNU).

The Federal Aviation Administration received \$1.5 million in the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, (H.R. 4475) for this project. We used these funds to acquire the MALSR for runway 26 at JNU. Unfortunately, delays during the environmental assessment phase resulted in the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision (FEIS/ROD) not being published until April 23, 2007, which was after the remaining funds expired at the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2004.

According to FAA Order 1050.1E, paragraph 514(b), if major steps toward implementation of the proposed action have commenced within three years of the approval date of the FEIS, the FEIS and the ROD remain valid for all other actions. If a lapse of three years or more occurs between the commencement of the MALSR installation and the conclusion of all other actions in the FEIS/ROD, then, at a minimum, a reevaluation of the continued adequacy, accuracy, and validity of the FEIS may need to be done and documented to ensure continued validity of both the FEIS and ROD. If a significantly greater lapse occurs, it is possible that a supplemental FEIS may be required.

We received funding in FY 2010 for the JNU MALSR project, and we will be working with the airport to determine how best to proceed on the project. You also had specific questions that are answered below:

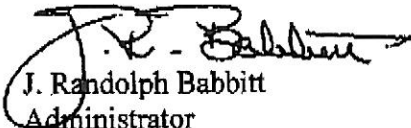
- The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010 (PL 111-117) provided the FAA \$1 million for this project, which is the total funding currently available;
- In 2009 we informed the airport that the estimate to complete this project at that time was approximately \$5.5 million. We believe this estimate is still valid;

- The airport has ongoing actions addressed in the FEIS/ROD scheduled for completion in 2012; therefore, the FEIS/ROD covering the MALSR would be valid for three years following the completion date of those airport actions; and
- Currently, we plan to work with the airport to identify how current funding can be used to best benefit the airport and FAA.

We have sent an identical letter to Senator Begich.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me or Roderick D. Hall, Assistant Administrator for Government and Industry Affairs, at (202) 267-3277.

Sincerely,



J. Randolph Babbitt
Administrator