



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Assistant Administrator for NextGen

800 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20591

Federal Aviation
Administration

1/11/2021

Mr. Russell "Chip" Childs
President and Chief Executive Officer SkyWest, Inc.
444 South River Road
St. George, UT 84790

Dear Mr. Childs:

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is revising Task 20-2: Vertical Navigation (VNAV) to extend the completion deadline from Fall 2020 to no later than the Summer 2021 NAC Meeting. This revision accommodates an industry request for an extension after initial analysis of the tasking found that relevant equipage data needed for the tasking may significantly change in the next several months. The revised tasking language is below.

Task 20-2 (Revision): Vertical Navigation (VNAV)

The NAC is tasked to provide the FAA an industry plan to address the existing equipage gap that prevents the full use of Required Navigation Performance (RNP) approaches for parallel operations. Currently, simultaneous operations cannot be used effectively by operators or air traffic control without a high participation rate. This change will allow the FAA to move forward and unlock larger safety and efficiency benefits associated with initiatives such as, Performance Based Navigation (PBN) paths to final approach, and Established on RNP (EoR).

The NAC advice should include the following:

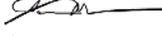
- A comprehensive assessment of mainline and regional airline impediments to equipage for full VNAV operations.
- Achieve consensus on a plan to eliminate impediments to equipage for VNAV operations.
- Where complete consensus cannot be achieved, identify those operators or industry organizations which cannot come to consensus agreement and provide a minority opinion on any objections.

Scope:

- FAA will provide the SMEs.
- MITRE may be used as a trusted clearing house for data (considered sensitive in nature to the operators).
- Include other stakeholder organizations to include relevant manufacturers and pilot unions.
- Complete work and provide a final recommendation report no later than the Summer 2021 NAC meeting.

If you have questions, please contact Greg Schwab, NextGen Stakeholder Collaboration Division Manager at Gregory.schwab@faa.gov.

Sincerely,

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Pamela D. Whitley

Acting Assistant Administrator for NextGen