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MEMORANDUM

TO: Stakeholders, Governments, and other interested parties
FROM: Lucy Moore
SUBJECT: Summary, Stakeholder Assessment Process
DATE: December 20, 2004

As many of you know, the Stakeholder Assessment Process was intended to give the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Park Service (NPS) a comprehensive view of stakeholder opinion with respect to overflight noise issues at Grand Canyon National Park. In addition, the agencies hoped to determine whether or not justification and support exist for convening a collaborative process that would enable the agencies and key stakeholders to resolve some of the issues together.

Lucy Moore Associates, Inc., was selected in August 2004 to conduct this stakeholder assessment process, under the supervision of Mike Eng at the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution. Mike has been working with the two agencies during the past year to help them in developing a more productive working relationship that will better enable them to fulfill the mandates of the Overflights Act of 1987 and subsequent court decisions in a coordinated and mutually supportive way.

With my colleagues Ed Moreno and Tahnee Robertson, I consulted with the agencies and with Mike, designed an interview process, selected 35 stakeholders to be interviewed, conducted interviews in person and on the phone, and collated and analyzed the information. At our public meeting in Flagstaff we invited any others who wanted to be interviewed to contact me. Our final number of interviewees was 46, and they represented the full range of interests with respect to the issue of overflight noise at Grand Canyon. They were asked questions relating to their history with the issue, their perspective on the obstacles to resolution, their ideas for potential solutions, and their interest in, and knowledge of, collaborative processes.

I presented the Stakeholder Assessment Process Summary at an interagency meeting of the FAA and NPS on November 12, and facilitated a discussion that touched on a variety of options for the agencies to take. The agencies concluded that, given outstanding technical issues and complexities of various options for stakeholder engagement, they would not make a decision relating to selection of a stakeholder process at that meeting. The technical issues have extended the time line for model review by the Federal Interagency Committee on Aviation Noise (FICAN) into January. The agencies propose to convene a meeting with stakeholders on February 10 in Phoenix to discuss the status of

model review, the summary of the stakeholder assessment process , and future design of the stakeholder process. All of the identified stakeholders receiving this memorandum will be invited and notified of logistical details.

I am pleased to attach the Stakeholder Assessment Process Summary for your review. It will give a complete picture of the issues and the potential for resolution from the stakeholders' point of view. (It does *not* represent the views of the facilitators, *nor* does it represent the official position of the agencies.) We appreciate the time and thoughtfulness that many of you gave to the interview. As you will see, although there are obvious differences of opinion, there are encouraging themes which run through the summary -- optimism for a collaborative process, a willingness to participate, appreciation of the agencies' cooperative spirit, and a deep caring for the Grand Canyon and the visitor experience.