



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

Great Lakes Region  
2300 East Devon Avenue  
Des Plaines, IL 60018

**NOV 26 2014**

Thank you for your recent letter to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) concerning the noise in your area, the process that took place to inform your local leaders of the changes, and the current status of the Peotone Airport. The FAA appreciates the opportunity to address your concerns.

You are correct in your observations that conditions have changed in your area. On October 17, 2014, a new runway was opened at O'Hare International Airport and the airspace around O'Hare was reconfigured. While it is acknowledged that O'Hare operations generate noise impacts on nearby residential areas, which exist on all sides of the airport, those impacts were thoroughly analyzed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS identified and mandated specific actions to mitigate noise impacts. The FAA works in cooperation with the airlines, the City of Chicago and the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC) and supports their efforts with funding and technical guidance. The FAA continues to participate with other Federal agencies, universities and industry groups in research to reduce noise impacts caused by airports.

The City of Chicago, as owner of O'Hare International Airport, maintains that TV signals are not within the control of the City of Chicago. The City encourages individuals with any issues to contact the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Enclosed is a fact sheet from the FCC website, it explains the problem, and how a citizen can register a complaint with the FCC.

With respect to residents of the area, the FAA conducted a series of public meetings and responded to public comments, before finalizing and publishing its conclusions in a Record of Decision in September 2005. Noise exposure, runway configuration, airspace configuration, air quality and impacts on surrounding communities were addressed through the extensive public process. This airspace redesign was included in the EIS that analyzed the O'Hare Modernization.

Norridge is a member of the ONCC. The ONCC is an independent coalition of 27 municipalities, Cook County, and 15 School Districts that represent 40 communities surrounding O'Hare. Since your community is a member of the ONCC, you may want to consider sharing your concerns with your local elected officials.

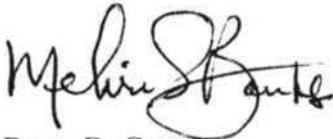
The State of Illinois continues to work on plans for the potential establishment of a proposed South Suburban Airport that would be located near Peotone, IL. Based on FAA site approval granted in 2002, the State has been acquiring land to preserve the option of developing an inaugural airport (over 3,800 acres to date). The State is focused on initial establishment of an

inaugural airport with the capability to expand to accommodate future market demand. Currently, the State is working on its Master Plan and has submitted a number of the components of the Plan. Once the FAA receives all of the components the draft Airport Layout Plan and Master Plan from the State, it can determine a schedule for the completion of its environmental analysis.

The modernization of O'Hare International Airport is needed to meet Chicago's aviation demands of the future in a manner that provides improved safety and efficiency for the airport and public. Through its analysis of the OMP, the FAA took great care to examine health and safety concerns to ensure that all appropriate impact mitigation actions are taken. While we acknowledge that impacts such as noise cannot be completely eliminated, the FAA continues to take significant steps to minimize those impacts, and we will continue to do so as technological advancements in the aviation industry provide those opportunities.

Thank you for sharing your perspective with the FAA.

Sincerely,



*for*  
Barry D. Cooper  
Regional Administrator  
Great Lakes Region

Enclosure



## Interference: Defining the Source

### Background

Interference is any unwanted radio frequency signal that prevents you from watching television, listening to your radio/stereo or talking on your cordless telephone. Interference may prevent reception altogether, may cause only a temporary loss of a signal, or may affect the quality of the sound or picture produced by your equipment.

### Common Causes

Before you can resolve an interference problem you must isolate the actual interference source. Interference originates from many sources - the equipment itself, your residence or the neighborhood.

The two most common causes of interference are transmitters and electrical equipment. Communication systems that transmit signals (transmitters) are capable of generating interference; these include amateur radios, CBs and radio and television stations. Electrical interference may be caused by power lines or electrical equipment in your home.

### Transmitter Interference

Transmitter interference is normally caused by the actual design of the (interfered-with) equipment itself. Many manufacturers do not protect internal wiring with adequate shielding or sufficient filtering, so the interfered-with equipment is susceptible to receiving unwanted signals – interference.

The source may be as simple as a frayed wire that connects your speakers to an amplifier. A faulty wire can act as an antenna that will carry interfering signals. Check the incoming wire from your outside antenna for any damage or corrosion. Replace any twin-lead cable with a coaxial cable; a coaxial cable offers the best protection from all types of outside interference.

To determine whether the interference is coming from the equipment itself, unplug one component at a time on the equipment or on other equipment to see if you can isolate the source. Also, disconnect other electrical equipment (answering machines, telephones, fax machines, etc.) one by one. If the problem goes away when the device is disconnected, you have found the source – the device itself.

If your equipment is reacting to transmitters such as an amateur radio or CB, you will have interference only when the radio operator is talking; you will be able to hear only half of the conversation. This type of interference is normally intermittent during specific times of the day. You will probably be able to verify your conclusion if you see an antenna mounted on a nearby house or car. Stereos, electronic organs, home intercom systems and other devices can react to nearby radio transmitters and will function as radio receivers. Cordless telephones use radio frequencies and have no protection from interference. If you are experiencing interference on your cordless phone, you should contact the manufacturer for assistance.

### Electrical Interference

Electrical interference appears on the audio and video portion of television programming. There are



various patterns; the entire screen may be covered with rolling horizontal lines, bars on the TV screen or a series of diagonal dashed white lines. Short bursts of interference may be caused by hair dryers, sewing machines, electric drills, doorbell transformers and garage door openers. If the pattern is on continuously, it may be caused by equipment that is in use full time, such as aquarium heaters and fluorescent lighting. Interference caused by your power company's electrical equipment is normally continuous and your power company should be notified.

A simple method of determining the location of electrical interference is by using a portable AM radio tuned to a quiet frequency at the lower end of the dial. If you hear static or a buzzing sound, check to see if it corresponds with the interference to your equipment. The closer you get to the source of the interference, the more intense the static will be.

If you cannot locate the interference source in your own house, check with your neighbors to see if they also receive interference. The house that has the worst interference will often be the source of the interference.

If you can determine that the electrical interference is not caused by any device in your home or a neighbor's home served by the same transformer, contact the customer service department of your local power company. Most power companies will investigate the problem and take steps to correct it.

The manufacturer of your home electronics equipment is in the best position to offer assistance in resolving your interference problems. You can usually find information about the manufacturer of your equipment on the Internet. The dealer who sold you the equipment should also be able to provide contact information for the manufacturer.

### **Filing a Complaint**

If you cannot locate the source of the interference and the problem continues, you can file a complaint with the FCC, which has established rules to reduce interference. There is no charge for filing a complaint. You can file your complaint using an online complaint form found at [www.fcc.gov/complaints](http://www.fcc.gov/complaints). You can also file your complaint with the FCC's Consumer Center by calling 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322) voice or 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322) TTY; faxing 1-866-418-0232; or writing to:

Federal Communications Commission  
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau  
Consumer Inquiries and Complaints Division  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

### **What to Include in Your Complaint**

The best way to provide all the information the FCC needs to process your complaint is to complete fully the online complaint form. When you open the online complaint form, you will be asked a series of questions that will take you to the particular section of the form you need to complete.

If you do not use the online complaint form, your complaint, at a minimum, should indicate:

- your name, address, email address and phone number where you can be reached;
- the type of company you are complaining about (telephone, wireless, Internet access)



provider, TV or radio station, cable or satellite provider); and

- any additional details of your complaint, including time, date and nature of the conduct or activity you are complaining about and identifying information for any companies, organizations or individuals involved.

### For More Information

For information about other communications issues, visit the FCC's Consumer website at [www.fcc.gov/consumers](http://www.fcc.gov/consumers), or contact the FCC's Consumer Center using the information provided for filing a complaint.

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*For this or any other consumer publication in an accessible format (electronic ASCII text, Braille, large print or audio), please write or call us at the address or phone number below, or send an email to [FCC504@fcc.gov](mailto:FCC504@fcc.gov).*

*This document is for consumer education purposes only and is not intended to affect any proceedings or cases involving this subject matter or related issues.*

Last Reviewed 1/18/13

