

Part 150: Records of Approval

Palm Springs Regional Airport, Palm Springs, California

Approved on 3/19/97

INTRODUCTION

The FAA-approved Noise Compatibility Program (NCP) prepared by the city of Palm Springs, California for Palm Springs Regional Airport (PSP) describes current and future noncompatible land uses, based on parameters established in FAR Part 150, Airport Noise Compatibility Planning. The NCP recommended nine (9) noise abatement measures, 14 land use management measures and three (3) program management measures. These measures are summarized beginning on page two (2) of the proposed revision to the approved NCP.

The measure listed herein is one that the city of Palm Springs recommends. It should be noted that the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) approval indicates only that the measure would, if implemented, be consistent with the purposes of Part 150. This approval does not constitute a decision to implement the measure. Later decisions concerning possible implementation of this action may be subject to applicable environmental procedures or other requirements. This record of approval pertains to the revision item only, and does not in any way change the decisions made by the FAA in the record of approval for the NCP dated July 25, 1995. The following measure is identified as Program Management Measure 4.

Program Management Measures

4. Install noise monitoring system. The city of Palm Springs should install a permanent noise monitoring and flight track data collection system for the airport. The system would include six to ten permanent noise monitors, two portable monitors, a system for collecting and processing flight track data, a central computer system, and related software. The system is necessary to comply with the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Residents Opposed to Airport Rezoning and Expansion (ROARE) adopted in 1995. In the MOU, the City agreed to amend its Noise Compatibility Program to provide for the installation of a noise monitoring system. The MOU specifically states that, after installation, the system will be monitored for two years, with reports to be prepared quarterly. At the conclusion of the two-year measurement period, the Noise Subcommittee of the Palm Springs Airport Commission is to meet with representatives of ROARE to consider what measures should be taken in response to the data collection, including noise mitigation measures under federal law. (Page 6 7 of Revision No. 1 to Approved NCP document.)

Approved. This measure would enable the city of Palm Springs to improve its ability to monitor the effectiveness of the approved Noise Compatibility Program and to more precisely identify land uses that are not compatible with noise levels greater than CNEL 65dB. This measure would provide continuous aircraft noise and flight track data to the airport operator and the people that are affected by aircraft noise emanating from PSP. Approval of this measure does not obligate the FAA to participate in funding the acquisition or installation of the permanent noise monitoring system. Note, for the purpose of aviation safety, this approval does not extend to the use of

monitoring equipment for enforcement purposes by in-situ measurement of any pre-set noise thresholds. (The FAA notes that Revision Number 1 to the approved NCP does not include any such thresholds.)