



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

Office of Airport Planning
and Programming

800 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20591

September 23, 2015

Dear Industry Representative:

We are circulating Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Draft Advisory Circular (AC) 150/5000-XX, Critical Aircraft and Regular Use Determination, to interested industry associations for the purpose of obtaining comments on the new AC. Please provide justification for all comments and recommended modifications. We may revise the final document as a result of comments received pending further review by the Office of Airport Planning and Programming.

This AC defines the term Critical Aircraft (or Critical Design Aircraft) and provides guidance on the use of Critical Aircraft in the conduct of facility planning studies for federally- obligated airports. The term Regular Use is also defined. The Critical Aircraft determination establishes basic project allowability.

There are multiple published definitions of Critical Aircraft or substantial use in existing FAA Orders and ACs. The intended policy of the Office of Airport Planning and Programming is to use this synthesized definition of Critical Aircraft, as contained in this AC, in place of all previous definitions of Critical Aircraft or substantial use. Upon publication of the Final AC, the Office of Airports will update other relevant guidance documents to reflect the new definition of Critical Aircraft.

We will consider comments received by **Friday, October 23** for inclusion in the AC. Please submit all comments using the attached comment matrix to Kent Duffy at kent.duffy@faa.gov.

You will find a PDF version of the draft advisory circular on the FAA website at http://www.faa.gov/airports/resources/draft_advisory_circulars/.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Hines
Manager, Planning and Environmental Division (APP-400)