

# NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7110.761

**Effective Date:**  
October 26, 2018

**Cancellation Date:**  
February 28, 2019

**SUBJ:** Landing Clearance

---

- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** This notice requires controllers to emphasize the changed runway number when issuing a landing clearance.
- 2. Audience.** This notice applies to the following Air Traffic Organization (ATO) service units: Air Traffic Services and associated air traffic control towers, Mission Support, and System Operations.
- 3. Where Can I Find This Notice?** This notice is available on the MyFAA employee website at [https://employees.faa.gov/tools\\_resources/orders\\_notices/](https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/) and on the air traffic publications website at [http://www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/publications/](http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/).
- 4. Cancellation.** This notice is cancelled with the publication of FAA Order JO 7110.65X, Change 3.
- 5. Explanation of Policy Change.** This change requires controllers to emphasize the changed runway number when issuing a landing clearance by stating the runway number in the runway change instruction as well as the runway number in the landing clearance.
- 6. Procedures/Responsibilities/Action.** Amend FAA Order JO 7110.65, paragraph 3-10-5, to read as follows:

## **3-10-5. LANDING CLEARANCE**

a. When issuing a clearance to land, first state the runway number followed by landing clearance. If the landing runway is changed, controllers must preface the landing clearance with “Change to runway” followed by the runway number. Controllers must then restate the runway number followed by the landing clearance.

### ***PHRASEOLOGY-***

***RUNWAY (number) CLEARED TO LAND***

*Or*

***CHANGE TO RUNWAY (number), RUNWAY (number) CLEARED TO LAND.***

### ***NOTE-***

*The purpose of the ‘change to runway’ phraseology and restating the runway number is to emphasize to the pilot that they are being cleared to land on a runway other than what they were expecting.*

**7. Distribution.** This notice is distributed to the following ATO service units: Air Traffic Services, Mission Support Services, and System Operations, and Safety and Technical Training; the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.

**8. Background.** On March 4, 2010, Notice 7110.517 to FAA Order JO 7110.65 became effective. This notice amended the phraseology requirement in paragraph 3-10-5 Landing Clearance, to include "change to runway" when issuing a landing clearance after a change to the runway assignment. This phraseology was identified in National Transportation Safety Board Recommendation A-06-65 following an incident of miscommunication when an assigned landing runway was changed. The new phraseology was intended to clearly communicate that a runway change had occurred. Currently, wrong surface landings are one of the Air Traffic Organization's Top 5 highest-risk safety issues. This new language builds on previous mitigations and is intended to clarify the "runway" on which a pilot is to land.

Original signed by *Sharon Kurychak*

Sharon Kurychak  
Director (A), Air Traffic Procedures  
Air Traffic Organization

9/25/2018

---

Date Signed