

NOTICE

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

N JO 7210.865

Effective Date:
March 28, 2014

Cancellation Date:
July 24, 2014

SUBJ: Runway Status Lights (RWSL)

- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** This notice amends FAA Order JO 7210.3 by adding a new paragraph, 10-6-10, Runway Status Lights (RWSL). This new paragraph provides guidance to the air traffic manager (ATM) and/or front line manager concerning the operation and periodic check of the RWSL system.
- 2. Audience.** This notice applies to the following Air Traffic Organization (ATO) service units: Terminal, System Operations, and all associated air traffic control facilities.
- 3. Where Can I Find This Notice?** This notice is available on the MyFAA employee Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the air traffic publications Web site at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications.
- 4. Explanation of Policy Change.** This notice cancels N JO 7210.842, Guidance for the Use of Runway Status Lights (RWSL) Light System, effective March 29, 2013. Those airports that have RWSL systems installed must begin to comply with the provisions identified via this notice.
- 5. Procedures:** Amend FAA Order JO 7210.3 by adding the following paragraph to read as follows:

10-6-10. RUNWAY STATUS LIGHTS (RWSL)

TERMINAL

The RWSL is a system of runway and taxiway lighting which enhances pilot situational awareness by illuminating runway entrance lights (REL) when the runway is unsafe for entry or crossing, and take-off hold lights (THL) when the runway is unsafe for departure. The RWSL system uses a configuration of in-pavement lights installed on taxiways and runways that indicate runway status only; they are not intended to indicate a clearance. The RWSL system works in conjunction with the ASDE-X system along with the Field Lighting System (FLS).

a. ATMs must ensure that when available or operating normally, the RWSL systems are operated on a continuous basis.

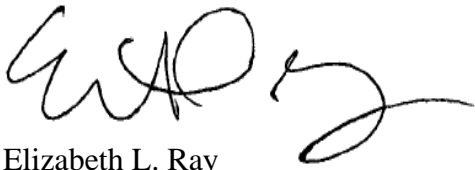
b. As part of the facility checklist, operation of the system must be verified once each shift.

- 6. Distribution.** This notice is distributed to the following ATO service units: Air Traffic Services, Mission Support Services, and System Operations Services; the Office of ATO Safety and Technical Training; Flight Standards Service; the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.
- 7. Background.** Through a collaborated effort to reduce runway incursions, the FAA tested and installed RWSL at selected airports throughout the United States. This system consists of runway

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entrance lights (REL) and take-off hold lights (THL) which provide pilots with an increased situational awareness of when it is safe to enter/depart the runway.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ELR', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Elizabeth L. Ray
Vice President, Mission Support Services
Air Traffic Organization

3/21/14
Date Signed