

Federal Aviation Administration National Part 139 Cert Alert

AdvisoryCautionary**Non-Directive**Advisory**Cautionary**Non-Directive**Advisory**Cautionary**Non-Directive*

Date: 1/30/2024 **24-01**

To: Airport Operators and FAA Airport Certification Safety Inspectors

(ACSIs)

Subject: Part 139 Requirements for Issuing a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM)

When the Airport Operator Has No Operative Airport Rescue Fire

Fighting (ARFF) Equipment Available on the Airport

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1. Purpose.

This CertAlert provides clarification of requirements under 14 CFR part 139 for Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) during air carrier operations and to notify air carriers that the airport is closed to air carrier operations when there is no operationally capable ARFF available on the airport.

2. Background.

Under 14 CFR part 139.319(a), certificate holders must provide on the airport during air carrier operations at least the rescue and fire fighting capability specified for the Index required by § 139.317 in a manner authorized by the Administrator.

Additionally, under 14 CFR part 139.319 (g)(3), certificate holders are required to notify the FAA and each air carrier using the airport of instances when a required ARFF vehicle is out of service and results in a reduction or total loss of ARFF Index. Specifically, part 139.319.(g)(3) states—

Any required vehicle that becomes inoperative to the extent that it cannot perform as required by paragraph (g)(1) of this section must be replaced immediately with equipment having at least equal capabilities. If replacement equipment is not available immediately, the certificate holder *must notify the Regional Airports Division*Manager and each air carrier using the airport in accordance with § 139.339.

Further, part 139.339(c)(8) requires the certificate holder to notify air carriers using the airport and to issue a NOTAM when required ARFF capability is not available.

3. Action.

- In compliance with parts 139.319(g)(3) and 139.339(c)(8), certificate holders must immediately issue a NOTAM closing the airport to air carrier operations in any instance when there is no (zero) ARFF capability available.
- Additionally, the airport will notify the FAA Airport Certification and Safety Inspector assigned to the airport when that action is taken.

When issuing NOTAMs about ARFF Index, certificate holders should follow guidance in the current edition of Advisory Circular 150/5200-28, *Notice to Airmen (NOTAMs) for Airport Operators*, Paragraph 4.2.

For example:

... AD AP ARFF NOT AVBL YYMMDD1200-YYMMDD1200

Translation: Airport ARFF is not available for an identified self-cancelling expiration time.

Or

...AD AP ARFF NOT AVBL AND AP CLSD TO AIR CARRIER OPS

Birkely Rhodes, Manager Airport Safety and Operations Division, AAS-300 1/30/2024

Date