



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

November 4, 2010

Mr. Glen Witt
NMSU _ PSL 21 Century Aerospace
Mail Stop 3548 NMSU
Las Cruces, NM 88003

Dear Mr. Witt:

This letter is to inform you that your application for a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization for the Aeryon Scout, AirRobot 100B, Draganflyer X6, T-Hawk, Raven B, and Wasp III Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) operations at the TAAC Conference (2010-CSA-48) has been disapproved.

After review of your application, it has been determined that your operation presents an unacceptable high risk. The disapproval is based on current guidance in the FAA Interim Operational Approval Guidance 08-01 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operating in the U.S. National Airspace System document (para. 8.2.6) stating UAS operations shall avoid an open-air assembly of people. This disapproval is also based on the FAA Memorandum, dated November 23, 2009, which addresses disapproval of requests for “airborne demonstrations of UAS at air shows or other large gatherings of people”.

Specifically, a large gathering of aviation enthusiasts at the TAAC Conference demonstration constitutes an open-air assembly of people. If flight in such an area is required, the proponent must support proposed operations with mitigations, an appropriate hazard analysis, and risk assessment. These documents must demonstrate that injury to persons or property near and along the flight paths is extremely improbable. The risk proposed for these operations has not been appropriately addressed in this application.

Should you have any questions, my point of contact in this matter is Mr. Robert Mullennix, Air Traffic Control Specialist, contract support for the UAS Group and he can be reached at 202-385-4582 or via email at robert.ctr.mullennix@faa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ardyth Williams".

Ardyth Williams
Air Traffic Manager

Unmanned Aircraft Systems Office