



May 13, 2003

CERTIFIED MAIL 7000 1670 00008 6942 5579

Mr. Birke Rhodes
Airports Certification Safety Inspector
Federal Aviation Administration
2300 E. Devon Ave.
Des Plaines, IL 60018

Dear Mr. Rhodes,

First, allow me to express my thanks for your recent visit to Central Illinois Regional Airport, with John Lott of your office, to review the issues surrounding the events of February 14, 2003. As you know, the management of Central Illinois Regional Airport takes very seriously its obligations regarding airport certification. We welcome constructive review of our policies and procedures and believe such reviews are key to our continued desire to better comply with those obligations.

During your visit, you highlighted several suggestions that will better prepare our operation, should an incident of this nature occur again. After carefully considering your suggestions, we have made some changes to our procedure that I wanted to make you aware of.

1. Certification Manual

As you know, we have completed the process of bringing our copy of the Airports Certification Manual up to date by incorporating previously approved pages into our master copy. Additionally, we have verified the placement and distribution of this manual with all appropriate users and agencies.

In addition, we will, within the next 60 days, conduct a complete review and update of our manual to ensure it accurately reflects all aspects of our compliance. All changes will be forwarded to your office for review and approval.

2. Continuing Education and Training

Now that the snow season is over in Central Illinois, we have begun the process of furthering the training and education of our entire Operations staff. This process began in earnest a little more than two weeks ago when we sent our two mainline supervisors to the annual Snow Symposium held by the American Association of Airport Executives. These two gentlemen are conducting training sessions with all crewmembers designed to

conducted by the entire management staff, lead by the Deputy Director of Operations. Each member of the Operations staff will be required to pass a competency test on all aspects of the certification program prior to next snow season.

This training will pay particular attention to all aspects of the airfield self-inspection program and its importance. We will also focus a great deal of attention on record keeping and its importance.

In addition to training provided for the entire crew, our front-line supervisors will be re-trained on all aspects of airfield condition reporting and its importance. This training will reflect our new policy of continuous updates of airfield conditions through the NOTAM process as well as through continuous communication with air traffic control tower personnel.

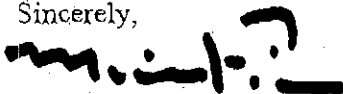
Our training efforts will be continuous and will include providing for no less than two members of our Operations crew to attend an appropriately themed ASOS school annually.

3 Establishing a Dedicated Snow Coordinator

We are currently reviewing our overall personnel staffing levels and budgets with the intent to establish one new position per shift. During snow emergencies this position will not be an active participant in snow removal, but will assume the responsibility to continuously update airfield condition reports, communicate with the air traffic control and FAA Flight Service, as well as our tenants and users. Should budgets not allow, this role will be filled by a member of the management staff, especially during significant snow events.

Birke, I trust that you will understand by our actions, the importance that we have placed on your suggestions. We welcome your review and value your comments as we continue to grow the operations at Central Illinois Regional Airport.

Sincerely,



Michael B. La Pier, A.A.E.
Executive Director