

North Vernon Municipal Airport

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December 2, 2004

J. Mark Reeves
Federal Aviation Administration
Central Terminal Operations
Manager, Airspace Branch, AGL-250
Room 274
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, IL 60018

Subject: FAA Airspace Case Number 04-AGL-63-NR

Dear Mr. Reeves:

This letter is in response to the proposed JPG and Racer MOAs. It is our concern that the implementation of these areas will have a serious and negative impact on aviation in southern Indiana. The MOAs will also have a drastic impact on economic development, not only at the airport but also in the surrounding communities. The JPG MOAs will make it very difficult if not impossible for our corporate users to access the airfield.

Statistics show that nearly 70% of VFR flights avoid MOAs entirely, and there is no reason to think it would be any different here. IFR flights into the airports in this area would become practically impossible. The North Vernon Airport records two IFR operations a day on average. The JPG D MOA alone would eliminate the GPS approach to runway 23 at North Vernon. This is our most used approach, with the lowest minimums.

It is our opinion that there are things that can be done to reduce the negative impact these MOAs would have. The proposed airspace is a very congested area, and finding a more isolated area to place the MOAs would be appropriate. Also, there has been no solid information on possible peak times of use. It would be unacceptable to leave these areas "HOT" all day for as little as 40 minutes of use. Finally the total impact of these MOAs would be greatly reduced if the floor of all the areas was raised to 6000' AGL. This would permit both IFR and VFR traffic to pass safely beneath the areas. It would also mitigate noise concerns and complaints from surrounding areas.

In summary, we feel as though the MOAs if implemented in the proposed form will have a substantial negative impact on aviation in Southern Indiana. This impact can be reduced by relocating the MOAs, identifying times of use more clearly, and/or raising the floor to 6000' AGL.

Sincerely,

Ryan Curry
Director of Airport Operations

Mayor John Hall
City of North Vernon

Charles Carson, President

Howard Malcomb, Vice President

William Black, Secretary

Dennis Apsley, Project Coordinator
Board of Aviation Commissioners

Trevor D. Lane
Jennings County Economic Development
Executive Director