ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION (Categorical Exclusion) for AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

~ Aviation in Harmony with the Environment ~

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION MEMPHIS AIRPORTS DISTRICT OFFICE AIRPORTS DIVISION

Airport: Morehead/Rowan County Airport Proposed Project: AWOS Design

Revised 11/09
FAA MEMPHIS AIRPORTS DISTRICT OFFICE
ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION FORM
FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS

Introduction
The Environmental Evaluation Form for Categorical Exclusions is based upon the guidance in Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Order FAA Order 1050.1E and 5050.4B, "National Environmental Policy Act, Implementing Instructions for Airport Projects" or subsequent revisions, which incorporates the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as well as the US Department of Transportation environmental regulations and many other federal statutes and regulations designed to protect the Nation's natural, historic, cultural, and archeological resources. The Form is for use by the MEM-ADO for proposed Airports projects in Kentucky and Tennessee that are expected to meet the criteria to be categorically excluded. An action on the categorically excluded list is not automatically exempted from environmental review under NEPA. The responsible FAA official must also review FAA Order 1050.1E, paragraph 304, Extraordinary Circumstances, before deciding to categorically exclude a proposed action.

The Categorical Exclusion Checklist is intended to be used when a proposed airport development action clearly would not involve or impact any conditions discussed in paragraph 304 of FAA Order 1050.1E. Proper completion of the Categorical Exclusion Checklist would allow the FAA to determine whether the sponsor’s proposed airport development project can be categorically excluded (CATEX) from the requirement to conduct a formal environmental assessment (EA), or if it is necessary to complete a Short Form EA.

Applicability
The Categorical Exclusion Checklist should be used only if the sponsor’s proposed project meets the following two (2) criteria:

1) The proposed project must be specifically listed as categorically excluded in one or more of paragraphs 307-312 of FAA Order 1050.1E and/or Tables 6-1 and 6-2.
   (a) Is the proposed development project specifically listed?
   (b) Yes_X__ No**_—_— If “yes,” identify the project by paragraph letter and number. If “no,” see (**)) below. __b_________

2) The proposed project must fall under one of the following categories of Federal Airports Program actions noted with an asterisk (*):
   (a) Approval of an airport location (new airport).
   *(b) Approval of a project on an airport layout plan (ALP).
   *(c) Approval of federal funding for airport development.
   *(d) Requests for conveyance of government land.
   *(e) Approval of release of airport land.
   *(f) Approval of the use of passenger facility charges (PFC).
   *(g) Approval of development or construction on a federally obligated airport.
Do any of the listed Federal Airports program action(s), 2(b) - (g), apply to your project?

Yes  ___X___ No** _____ If “yes,” list them here (there can be more than one).

If “no,” see (**) below.

** If the proposed project does not meet 1) or 2) above, i.e., one or more answers to the questions resulted in a (**), do not complete this Form. Rather, contact the appropriate official (listed at the end of this form) for additional instructions.

Directions
Prior to completing the Categorical Exclusion Checklist, the FAA recommends that you contact the environmental specialist or airports program manager in the Memphis Airports District Office to ensure that the proper Evaluation Form is used for your proposed project. Once you have completed the Form in accordance with the following instructions, submit it to that office for review.

To complete the Evaluation Form, the preparer should describe the proposed project and provide information on any potential impacts of the project. Accordingly, it will be necessary for the preparer to have knowledge of the environmental features of the airport. Although some of this information may be obtained from the preparer's own observations, previous environmental documents, or research, the best sources are the jurisdictional federal, state and local resource agencies responsible for protecting specially-protected resources, such as wetlands, coastal zones, floodplains, endangered or threatened species, properties in or eligible for National Register status, DOT Section 303/4(f) lands, etc. As appropriate, these agencies should be consulted prior to submitting information to the FAA. It is important to note that in addition to fulfilling the requirements of NEPA through this evaluation process, the FAA is responsible for ensuring that airport development projects comply with the many laws and orders administered by the agencies protecting specially-protected resources. Moreover, the Form is not meant to be a stand-alone document. Rather, it is intended to be used in conjunction with applicable Orders, laws, and guidance documents, and in consultation with the appropriate resource agencies.

An electronic version of this Evaluation Form is available from the Memphis Airports District Office. You may contact a Program Manager or the Environmental Specialist. We encourage the preparer to complete the Form electronically, rather than by hand. It may then be submitted via email, with a copy of the completed signature page sent by fax or mail; or, a hard copy of the completed Form may be submitted by fax or mail.
1. Project Location:
Airport Name: Morehead/Rowan County Airport
Airport Address: 1800 Rodney Hitch Blvd, P.O. Box 934
City: Morehead County: Rowan State: Kentucky

2. Airport Sponsor Information:
Point of Contact: Michael R. Gray
Address: 1800 Rodney Hitch Blvd, P.O. Box 934
City: Morehead County: Rowan State: Kentucky
Telephone: (606) 784-4134 Fax: (606) 780-0059
E-mail: mgray@mrcairport.org

3. Evaluation Form Preparer Information:
Point of Contact: Ben E. Brandstetter, P.E.
Address: 308 East Eighth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202
Telephone: (513)651-4244 Fax: (513)651-0147
E-mail: ben@bciaep.com

4. Proposed Development Project (describe ALL associated projects that are involved):
Morehead AWOS

5. Environmental Consequences – Special Impact Categories (refer to FAA Order 1050.1E, Paragraph 304, Extraordinary Circumstances and Order 5050.4B, Table 6-3, or subsequent revisions, for more information and direction to complete each category. A “yes” response to any of the following impact categories must be explained in the space provided at the end of this Section.

Noise
Is the proposed project likely to have a significant impact on noise levels over noise sensitive areas within the DNL 65dBA noise contour (e.g., residences, schools, churches, hospitals)?
Yes_____ No____ X

Will the project increase aircraft operations or move operations closer to noise sensitive areas?
Yes____ No____ X
What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Compatible Land Use
(a) Would the proposed project result in other (besides noise) impacts exceeding thresholds of significance that have land use ramifications, such as disruption of communities, relocation of residences or businesses, or impact natural resource areas? Yes____ No____ X

(b) Would the proposed project be located near or create a wildlife hazard as defined in FAA Advisory Circular 150/5200-33, "Wildlife Hazards on and Near Airports"? Yes____ No____ X (Wetlands, waste disposal operations, grain fields, golf courses, water management activities)

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A
Social Impacts
(a) Would the proposed project require relocation of any homes or businesses? Yes___ No____X
If yes, describe.
(b) Would the proposed project cause an alteration in surface traffic patterns, or cause a noticeable increase in surface traffic congestion? Yes_____ No____X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Induced Socioeconomic Impacts
Would the proposed project induce socioeconomic impacts, such as change business and economic activity in the community; impact public service demands; induce shifts in population movement and growth? Yes____ No____X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Environmental Justice
Would the proposed project impact minority and/or low-income populations? Yes___ No____X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation)

Air Quality
(a) Would the proposed project cause a permanent increase in air emissions? Yes___ No____X
(b) Would the proposed project have the potential to increase landside or airside capacity, including the capacity to handle surface vehicles? Yes _____ No____X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Water Quality
Would the proposed project impact water quality, including ground water, surface water bodies, any public water supply systems, etc.? Yes____ No____X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

DOT Section 303/4(f)
Does the proposed project require the use of any publicly owned land from a public park, recreation area, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge of national, state, or local significance, or land of an historic site of national, state, or local significance? Yes____ No____X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Historic, Architectural, Archaeological, and Cultural Resources
(a) Would the proposed project impact properties in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places? Yes____ No____X
(b) Is there reason to believe that significant scientific, prehistoric, historic, archeological, or paleontological resources would be lost or destroyed as a result of the proposed project? Yes_____ No____X
What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

**Biotic Communities**
Would the proposed project impact plant communities and/or cause the displacement of wildlife? Yes____ No____ X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

**Federal and State-Listed Endangered and Threatened Species**
Would the proposed project affect any federally- or state-listed or proposed endangered or threatened species of flora and fauna, or affect critical habitat? Yes____ No____ X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation)

**Wetlands**
Would the proposed project impact wetlands? Yes____ No____ X

Describe.

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

**Floodplains**
(a) Would the proposed project be located in, or would it encroach upon, any 100-year floodplains, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)? Yes____ No____ X
(b) Would the proposed project be located in a 500-year floodplain, as designated by FEMA? Yes____ No____ X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

**Coastal Zone Management Program (Not applicable to KY or TN)**
Would the proposed project occur in, or affect, a coastal zone, as defined by a state's Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP)? Yes____ No____ X

**Coastal Barriers (Not applicable to KY or TN)**
Is the location of the proposed project within the Coastal Barrier Resources System, as delineated by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) or FEMA coastal barrier maps? Yes____ No____ X

**Wild and Scenic Rivers**
Would the proposed project affect any portion of the free-flowing characteristics of a Wild and Scenic River or a Study River, or any adjacent areas that are part of such rivers, listed on the Wild and Scenic Rivers Inventory? Yes____ No____ X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

**Farmland**
(a) Does the proposed project impact farmland? Yes______ No_____ X If “no,” skip to item (17).

(b) If “yes,” Has the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) been contacted? Would it convert farmland protected by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) (prime or unique farmland) to non-agricultural uses? Yes______ No______

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Energy Supply and Natural Resources
(a) Would the proposed project have an impact on energy or other natural resource consumption? Yes______ No______ X. If “no,” skip to item (18).

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Light Emissions
Does the proposed project have the potential for airport-related lighting impacts on nearby residents? Yes______ No_____ X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Solid Waste
(a) Would the proposed project generate solid waste? Yes______ No_____ X

(b) If “yes,” are local disposal facilities capable of handling the additional volumes of waste resulting from the project? Yes______ No______

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Construction Impacts
Would construction of the proposed project cause impacts such as an increase in noise levels, reduced local air quality, erosion and polluted runoff, or disrupt local traffic patterns? Yes______ No_____ X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Other Consideration
(a) Is the proposed project likely to be highly controversial on environmental grounds? Yes______ No_____ X

(b) Is the proposed project likely to be inconsistent with any federal, state or local law or administrative determination relating to the environment? Yes______ No_____ X

(c) Is the proposed project reasonably consistent with plans, goals, policies, or controls that have been adopted for the area in which the airport is located? Yes______ No_____ X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

Hazardous Sites/Materials
Would the proposed project require the use of land that may contain hazardous substances or may be contaminated? Yes______ No_____X

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

**Permits**

Are any difficulties anticipated in obtaining required permits for the proposed project?  
Yes______ No_____X__

What is the basis for this determination? (Reference available documentation) N/A

**Cumulative Impacts**

When considered together with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development projects on or off the airport, federal or non-federal, would the proposed project produce a cumulative effect on any of the environmental impact categories above?  
Yes______ No_____X

6. **Explanation**

The following space is provided for the preparer to discuss any issues identified by “yes” responses to the above categories (identify by corresponding number), or to provide any supplemental information.

7. **Preparer Certification**

I certify that the information I have provided above is, to the best of my knowledge, correct.

_________________________________________          _____________
Signature                                                                                             Date

Ben E. Brandstetter, P.E.
Name, Title

Brandstetter Carroll, Inc.
Affiliation

8. **Airport Sponsor Certification**

I certify that the information I have provided above is, to the best of my knowledge, correct. I also recognize and agree that no construction activity, including but not limited to site preparation, demolition, or land disturbance, shall proceed for the above proposed project(s) until FAA issues a final environmental decision for the proposed project(s), and until compliance with all other applicable FAA approval actions (e.g., ALP approval, airspace approval, grant approval) has occurred.

_________________________________________          _____________
The following is to be completed by FAA only

9. FAA Decision:
Having reviewed the above information, certified by the responsible airport official, it is the FAA decision that the proposed project(s) of development warrants environmental processing as indicated below.

☐ The proposed development project has been found to qualify for a Categorical Exclusion from preparation of a formal environmental assessment.

☐ The proposed development project exhibits conditions that require the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA).

☐ The following additional documentation is necessary for FAA to perform a complete environmental evaluation of the proposed project: ____________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Project Reviewed and Recommended by:

__________________________________________          ____________
(FAA Environmental Specialist)                      Date

Approved:

__________________________________________          ____________
(FAA Approving Official)                          Date