



**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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June 18, 2008

Mr. Dennis Scoles, Foreman  
Mendocino County Grand Jury  
P. O. Box 629  
Ukiah, CA 95482

RE: Response to April 24, 2008 Grand Jury Report on Airports in Mendocino County

Dear Mr. Scoles:

Pursuant to request, dated April 24, 2008 the Mendocino County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) completed the required response form with the following comments:

- Little River Airport Recommendation #1 – Replace the Runway Lights. MCDOT opened contractor bids to do this work 5-29-08 and expect to complete work this construction season. There is sufficient Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) funding to complete the work this year. Contract is to be awarded June 22, 2008. Construction is to start in August 2008.
- Little River Airport Recommendation #2 – GPS Instrument Landing. FAA Flight Procedures Branch is working on establishing GPS approach instructions for Runway 29.
- Little River Airport Recommendation #3, General #1 - Permanent Emergency Generator. The current approved Airport Improvement Plan does not lists this as a priority project; thus, the new electrical vault will be set up for emergency generator. MCDOT is seeking ways to acquire a generator – possibly law enforcement seizure.
- Little River Airport Recommendation #4, General #4 – County Microwave System. MCDOT has assigned channels for use by the road maintenance staff. Additional access is beyond MCDOT authority and is a policy decision for emergency services.

Please contact Tom Peters or myself at 707-463-4363 with any questions.

Very Truly Yours,

Howard N. Dashiell

HND/hnd

cc: Tom Mitchell, Chief Executive Officer  
Paul Cayler, Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Bill Woodworth, Emergency Services Coordinator

David Colfax, Supervisor – Fifth District

## Response to Grand Jury Reports

Report Title: EMERGENCY...WHAT EMERGENCY? - Report on Airports in Mendocino County

Report Date: April 24, 2008

Response by: Howard N. Dashiell Title: Director Mendocino County Department of Transportation (MCDOT)

### FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with findings numbered: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12
  
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered:
  - #11 – there is space which could be used for tents or mobile units; however, some of that space is planned for future uses and MCDOT cannot confirm if there would be enough room to house all in the area. # 7 – 50+/- year old lighting system failed in October 2007. Plans for replacement of runway lighting system and runway pavement rehabilitation were completed April 2008. FAA-AIP grant for runway lighting and pavement rehabilitation was received in June 2008. Construction should be complete in November 2008.  
(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefore.)

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered 1, 2, & 3 have been implemented. (Attach a summary describing the implemented actions)
  
- Recommendations numbered 1 – Light replacement 2008 construction season have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. (attach a time frame for the implementation)
  
- Recommendations numbered 3 - If a generator became available from criminal seizure then MCDOT could likely fund its installation; however, generator purchase is beyond funding prospects. require further analysis.  
(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a time frame for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.)
  
- Recommendations numbered 2(GPS), 4(Microwave)-beyond funding prospects. Will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable. (Attach an explanation)

Date: June 18, 2008 Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Howard N. Dashiell, Director MCDOT

Number of pages attached: none – explanations given above