STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

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March 31, 2009

RE:

Rural airport regulations

(17 AAC 45)

Mr. John Collins Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association 421 Aviation Way Frederick, MD 21701

Dear Mr. Collins,

Thank you for taking time to share your concerns and submit your written comments regarding the proposed revisions to 17AAC45 (rural airport regulations). We value your opinion. We also appreciate your patience while the department considered all of the comments received.

After much consideration of the comments, concerns and suggestions, we have revised the regulations. You can find a copy of the revised regulations on the DOT&PF Rural Airport website at http://dot.alaska.gov/stwdav. The Record of the Use or Rejection of Written Comments is also located on this website. The regulations will be effective April 23, 2009.

Recognizing the economic times and their impacts on rural aviation in Alaska, the rates will not dramatically increase at one time, as was effective under the March 22, 2008 regulations. A more modest implementation of rate increases will be phased in slowly over several years beginning January 2010 in the revised regulations.

Again, thank you sharing your comments and participating in this process. If you prefer a hard copy of the regulations and/or Record of the Use or Rejection of Written Comments, or if you have any questions, please call Jenni Kuentzel, Chief, Statewide Aviation Leasing at (907) 269-0319 or send her an email at jennifer.kuentzel@alaska.gov.

Sincerely.

Christine E. Klein, AAE

Deputy Commissioner of Aviation