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January 21, 2011

Ms. Sheri Edgett-Barron
Docket Operations
M-30
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Room W12-140
West Building Ground Floor
Washington, DC 20590

Re: FAA Docket No. FAA-2010-1326, Proposed revision to Advisory Circular 70/7460-1K

Ms. Edgett-Barron,

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) representing more than 410,000 members nationwide, submits the following comments in support of the proposed change to FAA Advisory Circular 70/746011K, Obstruction marking and Lighting.

The proliferation of meteorological evaluation towers poses a significant safety hazard to many types of aeronautical operations. The towers are very difficult to see and in some conditions are virtually invisible, e.g. a background of snow cover or other light colored surface. The operations that are at risk of striking a tower include general aviation flights for personal transportation, flight training, agriculture application, numerous Federal, State and local law enforcement, emergency services, wildlife management, and many others.

Because of the danger to aircraft that exists from unmarked and unlighted meteorological towers, it is essential that they be made as conspicuous as possible to allow pilots to see and avoid these structures. AOPA therefore concurs with the proposal to add recommended obstruction and marking lighting standards to AC 70/7460-1K.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed action.

Sincerely,

Tom. Kramer
Manager
Air Traffic Services