



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Northwest Mountain Region
Seattle Airports District Office
1601 Lind Avenue S.W., Suite 250
Renton, Washington 98057-3356

August 22, 2011

Friedman Memorial Airport Authority Board
c/o Richard R. Baird
P.O. Box 929
Hailey, Idaho 83333

Re: Friedman Memorial Replacement Airport - Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Mr. Baird:

As you are aware, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recently announced another delay in the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Friedman Memorial Airport Replacement Airport project. Due to the results of our on-going analyses, we have now decided to suspend indefinitely any further work on the DEIS.

We have reached this decision after thoughtful deliberation. We have decided to suspend any further work on the DEIS due to the increased anticipated costs of the project and potential impacts to wildlife. We are concerned that this project may not be affordable for either FAA or the local community. Considering uncertainties about our FAA grant program and the limited availability of local funds, we are unable to foresee sufficient federal funding that we believe would be needed to build a replacement airport.

My staff is ready to meet with you to discuss the next steps in this process. We look forward to working with you as you explore options for the future.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Northwest Mountain Region Environmental Program Specialist, Cayla Morgan, at (425) 227-2653.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Taylor', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Donna P. Taylor
Manager, Airports Division