



April 1, 2019

Federal Communications Commission

Office of Engineering and Technology
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

AiRXOS, a part of GE Aviation, is pleased to be supporting the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma in their efforts in combating COVID-19. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is the third largest tribe in the United States, encompassing over 10 counties in southeast Oklahoma. Recognized by the FAA as a Public Aircraft Operator, the Choctaw Nation has been at the forefront of demonstrating the potential of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in service to the public.

Continuing this mission of public service in the midst of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Choctaw Nation and their coalition of private companies, including AiRXOS, will be performing lifesaving UAS flights in coordination with the Atoka County Medical Center and the Atoka Manor Nursing Home, both in Atoka, OK. These flights will transport much needed medical supplies, equipment, and tests between the hospital and nursing home. The use of UAS will reduce the number of human-to-human interactions with the residents of Atoka Manor, among the most vulnerable to COVID-19 in the community.

To perform these flights safely, a perimeter is established around the intended flight path, creating what is called a "zero conflict area" (ZCA). If a manned aircraft enters the ZCA, the UAS pilot in command (PIC) is notified of the incursion and executes a predetermined procedure to prevent any contact between the unmanned aircraft (UA) and the manned intruder. For this particular operation in Atoka, a combination of Fortem Technologies TrueView R20 and R30 radars will be used to monitor the ZCA perimeter, thus the reason for this special temporary authorization request.

The following individual is coordinating UAS operations in Atoka and has full authority to terminate operations as needed:

Robert C. Huck, PhD
Director, Advanced Technology Initiatives
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
(580) 740-3370

Given the rapid spread of COVID-19 and the need for immediate response, AiRXOS and our partners at the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma respectfully request this application for special temporary authorization be expedited.

Sincerely,

Adam J. Diffenderfer

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