

Request for Expedited Processing

This exhibit is being provided as supplementary information for expeditious processing of the relevant application. Information contained in this separate exhibit is gleaned from current and previous submissions.

The project for which this application is being submitted is a component of developing the National Bird Strike Hazard Advisory System. The efforts by the Center of Excellence for Airport Technology are directed to the development and evaluation of bird detection RADAR units. This effort includes coordination with a Department of Defense Program led by the SPAWAR Systems Division of the United States Navy. The SPAWAR Systems Division has previously deployed bird detection RADAR units at a number of Navy and Marine Corps installations.

The pertinent research is being funded under a grant from the Department of Transportation. As a result, the University of Illinois has a contract with the United States Government to fulfill the described portions of research related to the project. This project is not, however, involved in development of radio equipment for the exclusive purpose of exportation to stations under the jurisdiction of foreign states. The research will be used within the United States for the development of systems to aid both civilian and military aircraft and other relevant assets.

A strike by a bird to aircraft engines typically causes significant damage ultimately rendering them unusable. At civilian airports such a strike, especially during take-off or landing, will significantly affect the ability of the aircraft to function properly leading to a substantially higher risk of crash. The crash of an aircraft will of course not only jeopardize human life aboard the craft, but

has the potential to kill a greater population on the ground and damage wide areas of property. In the case of military aircraft, damage rendering them inoperable will affect national security.

In previous instances, one of which recently occurred in Chicago, some aircraft have had to dump jet fuel following a bird strike in order to safely land. This action, while necessary in order for the affected aircraft to land, exacerbates the economic impact of the collision between aircraft and aviary creatures. Furthermore, the release of large quantities of jet fuel results affects the local environment.

As previously discussed, the project under which this authorization is sought is being funded by one or more departments or agencies of the United States Government. Attached is a letter from the United States Department of Agriculture supporting the project and research. Since the Department of Transportation is funding this project, the Federal Aviation Administration is keenly interested in the research as is the National Transportation Safety Board. Since the project seeks to provide research into reducing negative impacts on life, safety, property, national security, and the environment, expedited processing of this authorization is justified.