

Request for Expedited Processing

A request for expedited processing is respectfully requested. As detailed in the application explanation, this experiment is being performed by the University of Illinois in conjunction with the Federal Aviation Administration. Specifically the FAA program works with the Department of Defense in a program led by the United States Navy SPAWAR Systems Division. The project is critical to the continued enhancement of aviation safety, which has the potential to impact national security. As described, this project is critical to the development of the National bird Strike Advisory System. Specifically this is part of the Federal Aviation Administration Research and Development Program AAR 411. The grant for this program from the FAA is A5778 DOT 05-C-AT-UIUC for the Center of Excellence for Airport Technology.

The effects on national security and life safety are twofold. In the case of commercial and/or private aircraft, the timely development of this system will limit the number of aircraft struck by birds. Birds striking aircraft significantly damages or destroys jet engines. The loss of one or more jet engines during takeoff and/or landing substantially increases the probability of a plane crash. Such a crash, especially in the vicinity of urban airports, could result in significant loss of life both on the aircraft and also on the ground. In the case of military installations, a strike by birds to military assets would render them unusable, which would have an effect of national security and the protection of the nation.