



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

SEP 14 2006

Ms. Melanie Sloan
Executive Director
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington
11 DuPont Circle, NW, 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20026

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request 2006-00105WA


Dear Ms. Sloan:

This letter is in response to your request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) dated September 7, 2005, Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, for copies of documents related to Hurricane Katrina.

Your request has been referred to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for response. Included are 9 pages that pertain to the FAA. The material forwarded by DHS has been reviewed and determined to be releasable.

There are no fees associated with your FOIA request because the cost to process your request was less than \$10.00.

Sincerely,

for 
Lynne A. Osmus
Assistant Administrator
for Security and Hazardous Materials

Enclosure: FAA Situation Report



September 2, 2005

**FAA Emergency Operations Division (AEO-200)
Katrina
Situation Report No. 15
As of 5:00 pm EDT September 2, 2005
(Changes in bold)**

1. Background: President George W. Bush declared major disasters for impacted areas in Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, and Alabama. The Secretary of Homeland Security has announced that this hurricane response is declared an Incident of National Significance, making the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) the overall incident manager.

2. Operational Status:

Southern Region (ASO) has activated a Crisis Response Working Group (CRWG) in preparation for Hurricane Katrina (now Tropical Depression), and continues to meet daily.

- All facilities are at either at Readiness Level "Delta" if there is remaining damage and/or personnel are unaccounted for, or "normal operations" if there is no damage and/or all personnel are accounted for.
- Fuel (gas and diesel) availability is now a critical issue in the restoration efforts.
- The ASO Regional Administrator (ASO-1) will travel to Gulfport (GPT) on September 2. ASO-1 will meet with employees, the assessment teams, and airport officials. If time permits, ASO-1 will also make visits to Stennis/Bay St. Louis (HSA) and Mobile (MOB).

Southwest Region (ASW) has activated a Crisis Response Working Group (CRWG) in preparation for Hurricane Katrina (now Tropical Depression), and continues to meet daily.

- All facilities are at either at Readiness Level "Delta" if there is remaining damage and/or personnel are unaccounted for, or "normal operations" if there is no damage and/or all personnel are accounted for.
- Fuel (gas and diesel) availability is now a critical issue in the restoration efforts. Reports indicate that gas stations are only accepting cash, not government credit cards.
- **Medical reports that Katrina has affected all Aviation Medical Examiners (AME) in the greater New Orleans area and surrounding communities. Due to phone line disruption, ASW Aviation Medicine Office has not been able to establish contact with any AME in a 120-mile radius of New Orleans. Therefore, it is impossible to determine which offices may be open to process aviation medical examinations.**

- Southwest Region Logistics Contracting Officer is assisting DOD with jet fuel resources at New Orleans. DOD is providing the contract and logistics services for the aviation fuel at MSY.
- Dan Prevo, Southwest Region Manager and the FEMA RETCO are activated to the Denton FEMA Office.

3. Civil Airport Status:

Louisiana

- Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport, (MSY), OPEN, ATC Functional. ATIS intermittent. 24 hour VFR Operations to both RWYs 01/19 and 10/28. Trees and power lines are down blocking access. Airport firefighting and rescue in place. Airport can support 9 aircraft per hour. Current ramp space will support 9 aircraft with anticipation of handling 12 aircraft (C-130 size) by COB September 1. The Houston Airport convoy, of 30 airport operations volunteers, has arrived at MSY. The team members are from both Houston George Bush Intercontinental and Houston William P. Hobby Airport, and consist of airfield subject matter experts, airfield technicians, and airfield maintenance workers. The equipment they are providing includes: technical test equipment, portable flood lighting, generators, tools, water and other supplies. FAA portable air traffic control tower arrived September 1 at 5:00 pm CDT and scheduled to be operational by 10:00 am CDT, September 2. Will operate on a 9-5 schedule thereafter. **There are now 24 tech ops specialists and 18 air traffic control specialists on site.**
- Alexandria International Airport (AEX), OPEN, ATC Fully Functional, Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR.
- Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport (BTR), OPEN, ATC Fully Functional - on generator power, Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR. Primary staging for MSY.
- Harry P. Williams Memorial Airport - Patterson, (PTN), OPEN, ATC Fully Functional, Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR
- Houma Terrebonne Airport, (HUM), OPEN, ZHU is providing ATC services, Initial reports indicate some damage and debris scattered across airport. Runway reported as clear.
- John E. Lewis Field Airport - McComb/Pike County, MCB, OPEN, BUEC OTS. Uncontrolled airport. Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR
- Lafayette Regional Airport (LFT), OPEN, ATC Fully Functional, Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR. Possible Alternate evacuation point from New Orleans
- Lake Charles Regional Airport (LCH), OPEN, ATC Fully Functional, Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR.
- NAS Alvin Callendar (NBG), OPEN, ATC Limited radios, Day VFR operations only.
- New Orleans Lakefront Airport (NEW), CLOSED, Airport is completely under water with no expected recovery timeframe available. An assessment team will be dispatched as soon as possible.

Mississippi

- Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport, (GPT), OPEN, ATC being provided temporary by U.S. Air Force Reserve (USAFR) tower, Runway 14/32 (9002 ft) capable of handling C-5A and B747 aircraft) and 18/36 (4950 ft) are now both open with Limited VFR Day operations for emergency relief aircraft only. FAA mobile ATCT will arrive on September 1 and estimated to be operational on September 2.
- Stennis International Airport - Bay St. Louis, (HAS), ATC to 7000 ft, FAA mobile tower due to arrive September 1. Uncontrolled airport. Day VFR only operations for emergency relief aircraft only. Availability of power, fuel and other services are being assessed. **Aircraft rescue and firefighting equipment was destroyed from flooding. No other firefighting equipment available.**
- Bobby L. Chain Municipal Airport - Hattiesburg, (HBG), OPEN, ATC to 5000ft, uncontrolled airport. No power, fuel or ground services.
- Hardy-Anders Field - Natchez, (HEZ), , ATC to ground, Uncontrolled airport. No Power to airport.
- Hawkins Field Airport, (HKS), OPEN, ATC Fully Functional, Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR.
- Jackson International Airport., (JAN), OPEN, Communications OK., Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR
- Kessler AFB, (BOX), ,VFR Day operations only. Prior permission required.
- Laurel Regional Hattiesburg (PIB), Uncontrolled airport. Reported Day VFR only operations for emergency relief aircraft only. **No service.**
- Meridian Key Field, MEI, OPEN, ATC Fully Functional, Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR
- NAS Meridian, NMM, OPEN, with limited services. No ATC services or power.
- Pascagoula - Lott International Airport, PQL, , Uncontrolled airport. No communications or power.

Alabama

- Mobile Downtown Airport, BFM, OPEN, ATC Fully Functional, Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR. Primary Staging area for Gulfport recovery.
- Mobile Regional, MOB, OPEN, ATC Fully Functional - on generator power, Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR.

Florida, Tennessee, Kentucky and Alabama

- Airport operations normal.

4. Air Carrier Impacts: Air carriers have stated that they will assess operations and the reestablishment of full service into the affected area based upon an evaluation of facilities, equipment and the availability of personnel.

- Northwest – scheduled to conduct relief flights into (MSY).
- FEDEX – schedule to conduct relief flights into (MSY).
- Delta – scheduled to conduct relief flights into (MSY).
- American – schedule to conduct relief flights into (MSY).
- Continental – schedule to conduct relief flights into (MSY).

5. Employee and Dependent Status:

Effective Thursday (September 1) at 5 p.m. CST, the FAA will be operating a special 24-hour hotline put in place solely for FAA employees directly affected by the hurricane. The number is (866) 900-3850. This hotline will be staffed by a team of experts from human resources management, payroll and logistics. Employee Assistance Program (EAP) counselors are going to be made available as well.

Southern Region (ASO) (ASO SITREP September 1, 5:00 pm EDT).

- All ASO employees accounted for. Personal property damage assessments still in progress.

Southwest Region (ASW) (ASW SITREP September 2, 7:00 pm CDT).

- New Orleans (MSY) Tech. Ops. – **2 unaccounted for.**
- New Orleans (MSY) ATC – **1 unaccounted for.**
**1 stranded at New Orleans Lakefront Tower-
Search and Rescue assisting to extract employee.**

6. Supplemental Information:

- The next ASO CRWG meeting/telcon will be held on **Saturday (September 3) at 9:30 am EDT** to assess the current situation and to review readiness level status.
- The next ASO Air Traffic telcon will be held on **Saturday (September 3)** to assess and report the current operational status.
- The next Eastern Service Area (ESA) telcon will be held on Saturday (**September 3**) to assess and report the current facility and equipment status.
- The next ASW CRWG, Central Service Area (CSA) and ASW Air Traffic meeting/telcon will be held on **Friday (September 2) at 4:00 pm, and Saturday, Sunday and Monday (September 3-5) at 10:00 am EDT** to assess and report the current facility and equipment status
- At the request of Air Traffic (ATO), the Communications Support Team (CTS) and van is staged and operational at the Baton Rouge Airport (BTR), Louisiana.
- FAA Headquarters Crises Response Working Group (CRWG) is operating 24/7 in the WOCC with appropriate LOBs. All other LOBs have 24/7 on-call personnel.
- DOT Crisis Management Center (CMC) surged on Monday (August 29) at 8:00 am EDT in response Hurricane Katrina. FAA CMC cadre members continue to support this effort.
- AEO-200 is supporting the DOT Dalmatians group addressing Hurricane Katrina recovery operations. The group brings together technical specialists from each of DOT's operating administrations to provide recommendations to the Secretary and DOT senior staff members.
- Frank Hatfield is the DOT point-of-contact and will be heading the recovery operations. He will be on-site (September 1) at Baton Rouge Airport (BTR), Louisiana.

FAA Readiness Level Actions (Summary of actions as listed in FAA Order 1900.1F.

Note: Actions identified are at the Managers discretion as appropriate to existing conditions)

Alpha – review emergency plans, review FAA situation report requirements, review orders and manuals involving protection of facilities and equipment, conduct communications check, verify status of expendable survival supplies, verify status of fuel levels, identify status of personnel, disseminate warning and evacuation orders, notify operations center when measures complete, review physical security, review emergency cadre assignments, and review procedures for activation of alternate command and control facilities.

Bravo – implement actions to protect personnel and facilities, maintain communications checks, distribute or relocate emergency food, water and recovery equipment, distribute or relocate repair parts, provide fuel for facility backup power equipment, consider dispersal of FAA aircraft, disseminate warnings and evacuation orders, provide survival information and assistance to FAA employee/dependents, initiate CRWG meetings, review post disaster plans, notify operations center when measures are complete, prepare emergency cadres for relocation, submit daily situation report, prepare alternate command and control facilities.

Charlie – maintain communications checks, forward deploy emergency repair crews, disseminate employees/dependents warnings and evacuation orders, provide relocation assistance, initiate CRWG meetings, notify operations center when measures are complete, release nonessential personnel, disperse agency aircraft, and institute maximum security measures.

Delta – conduct damage assessment and determine status of personnel/dependents, initiate situation report, request assistance as required, conduct communications checks, initiate CRWG meetings, notify operations center when measures are complete.

Sources: ASO, ASW, ESA, CSA, ATCSCC, HQ ATO, NWS, Air Carriers, Media

Authorized for Release:

SIGNED

Claudio Manno
Deputy, Assistant Administrator for Security & Hazardous Materials (ASH-2)

AIRPORT STATUS
 As of 9:00 AM Friday, September 2
 Information from the FAA's Air Traffic and Airport Organizations
Changes in blue

This report has been update to show fuel states as provided by various Federal, State and local authorities

Airport	ID	Open	Closed	ATC	Jet A	AvGas	Remarks
LOUISIANA							
Alexandria International Airport	AEX	X		Fully Functional	Yes	Yes	Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR.
Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport	BTR	X		Fully Functional - on generator power	Yes	Yes	Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR. Primary staging for MSY.
Harry P. Williams Memorial Airport - Patterson	PTN	X		Fully Functional	Yes	Yes	Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR
Houma Terrebonne Airport	HUM	X		ZHU is providing ATC services	Yes	Yes	Initial reports indicate some damage and debris scattered across airport. Runway reported as clear.
John E. Lewis Field Airport - McComb/Pike County	MCB	X		BUEC OTS			Uncontrolled airport. Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR
Lafayette Regional Airport	LFT	X		Fully Functional	Yes	Yes	Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR. Possible Alternate evacuation point from New Orleans
Lake Charles Regional Airport	LCH	X		Fully Functional			Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR.
Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport	MSY	X		Functional. ATIS intermittent	Yes	Yes	24 hr VFR Operations to both RWYs 01/19 and 10/28. Trees and power line are down blocking access. 30 FAA staff from HOU have arrived to support airport operations.

NAS Alvin Callendar	NBG	X		Limited radios	Yes		Day VFR operations only.
New Orleans Lakefront Airport	NEW		X				Airport is completely under water with no expected recovery timeframe available.

Airport	ID	Open	Closed	ATC	Jet A	AvGas	Remarks
MISSISSIPPI							
Bobby L. Chain Municipal Airport - Hattiesburg	HBG	X		ATC down to 5000ft	Yes	Yes	Uncontrolled airport. No power, fuel or ground services.
Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport	GPT	X		ATC being temporarily provided USAFR tower.	Yes	Yes	Limited VFR Day operations for emergency relief aircraft only. Both GPT runways are now open. Main runway 14/32 is 9002 ft. (capable of handling C-5A and B747 aircraft) and secondary 18/36 is 4950 ft. Portable FAA Tower scheduled to be operational by 1000 today. Will operate on a 9-5 schedule thereafter.
Hardy-Anders Field - Natchez	HEZ			ATC to ground	Yes	Yes	Uncontrolled airport. No comms or power at airport.
Hawkins Field Airport	HKS	X		Fully Functional			Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR.
Jackson International Airport.	JAN	X		Comms OK. No NAV.	Yes	Yes	Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR
Kessler AFB	BIX	X		Fully Functional			VFR day operations only. Prior Permission Required.
Laurel Regional Hattiesburg	PIB	X			Yes	Yes	Uncontrolled airport. Reported Day VFR only operations for emergency relief aircraft. No services.
Meridian Key Field	MEI	X		Fully Functional			Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR
NAS Meridian	NMM	X		Landlines to Memphis Center out			Open with limited services. No ATC services or power.
Pascagoula - Lott International Airport	PQL						Uncontrolled airport. No comms or power.

Stennis International Airport - Bay St. Louis	HSA	X		ATC to 7000 ft DOD Mobile tower pending.	Yes	Yes	Uncontrolled airport Day VFR only operations for emergency relief aircraft only. 30,000 gal of fuel available.
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Airport	ID	Open	Closed	ATC	Jet A	AvGas	Remarks
ALABAMA							
Mobile Downtown Airport	BFM	X		Fully Functional			Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR. Primary Staging area for Gulfport recovery.
Mobile Regional	MOB	X		Fully Functional - on EG	Yes	Yes	Fully Operational to all commercial, civil and military flights VFR and IFR.

Information POC:
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 FAA Emergency Operations Division
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Scott.Hubbard@faa.gov

An area of New Orleans bound by the coordinates listed below has been identified by USCG Sector New Orleans Incident Management Team as potential hazard to aviation.

The area should be referred to as a "Law Enforcement Sensitive Area". It is within the New Orleans TFR. No additional TFR will be published by the FAA as the area is within the New Orleans TFR. Aviation interests in the area should be made aware of the potential for small arms fire directed at SAR Assets.

N29.58.36 W 090.06.35
 N29.59.58 W 090.04.25
 N29.58.27 W 090.02.58
 N29.57.07 W 090.03.55