



Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Date: August 20, 2008

Ardyth Williams

From: Ardyth Williams, Manager, Unmanned Aircraft Systems

To: Manager, Eastern Terminal Service Area Airspace Group

Subject: United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

We have reviewed the subject proposal, USDA Operations, tracking number 2008-ESA-7, to operate an Unmanned Aircraft System in the National Airspace System (NAS). That request was forwarded to the Unmanned Program Office, AIR-160 for formal determination of equivalent level of safety for CFR Part 91 requirements. The FAA non-concurs with the COA application due to the items listed below.

- The proposed area of operations is located within 1 mile of Dawson Municipal Airport runway 31.
- The proposed area of operations is located in close proximity of Dawson Municipal Airport instrument approach to runway 31.
- The proposed area of operations is located in an area which allows less than a 40 foot margin between the operating altitude of the UA and the minimum descent altitude (MDA) of the instrument approach to runway 31.

In your discussions with the UAS proponents, please make it clear that the review of the proposed activity was based on our current understanding of the UAS operations and the impacts of such operations in the NAS.

If you have any questions please contact Mike Connor at 202-267-9255, e mail Mike.CTR.Connor@faa.gov, fax 202-267-9328.