

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 2, 2015

Mr. Michael Huerta
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20591-004

Dear Mr. Huerta:

It has been brought to our attention that England Airpark/Alexandria International Airport (AEX) has applied for designation in the FAA Military Airports Program. England Airpark was formed from the closure of England Air Force Base in December of 1992. Working with the FAA, the Central Louisiana Area has acted aggressively to implement a reuse plan beneficial to economic development in the region. In addition, England Airpark/AEX has become a vital air transport platform for hurricane disaster relief to the Gulf Coast.

We understand the application submitted is Phase II of a ramp replacement project. The ramp area to be replaced was constructed in 1943. The pavement has surpassed its useful life by 14 years with expected cracking, spalling, and failure apparent. Information provided to us reveals this ramp area is important to the Airpark's largest commercial tenant, multiple charter airlines, and service for disaster relief aircraft. We are also told that, due to the importance of this project, the Louisiana State Department of Transportation has endorsed this application. Finally, this project is fully designed and ready to bid as soon as notice of award is given.

England Airpark/AEX is located in the federal Mississippi River Delta initiative, it is under consideration for federal Promise Zone designation and adjacent to a HUD renewal community zone.

We commend England Airpark for its efforts to reuse this former military facility and the FAA's past support. We ask that you give full consideration to this important project that will benefit economic development, air transportation safety, and vital disaster relief.

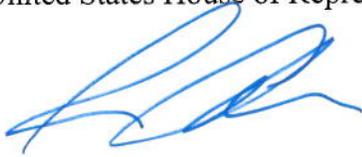
Sincerely,


David Vitter
United States Senate


Bill Cassidy
United States Senate



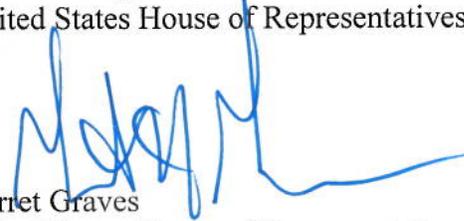
Charles Boustany
United States House of Representatives



Ralph Abraham
United States House of Representatives



John Fleming
United States House of Representatives



Garret Graves
United States House of Representatives

CC'd to:

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