



AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION

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January 27, 1992

**Mr. Barry Harris
Acting Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591**

Barry:
Dear ~~Mr.~~ Harris:

I understand that the following locations have recently qualified for consideration to become Terminal Control Areas (TCA): Cincinnati, OH; Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Nashville, TN; Raleigh, NC; and San Juan, PR.

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) solicits your support and endorsement of local user groups working with the FAA in an initial design process, prior to the issuance of any NPRM. This process has worked well at other new TCA locations and we believe this process should continue.

These user groups have normally been sponsored by the state aviation agency and have been composed of a cross section of all users. The FAA has provided air traffic expertise from the local facility but the FAA staff were not a formal part of these groups. The process has normally required six to ten meetings spread over a four to five month period.

The recommendations from these groups has been excellent. As an example the recently established Washington, Baltimore/Dulles TCA is the largest in the United States. There have been very few complaints since the implementation of this TCA. We believe that the acceptance is attributable to the cooperative attitude displayed by the user group and the FAA willingness to design a TCA by listening to the needs and desires of the users.

AOPA has participated in all of the TCA user groups since 1988, when this process started with the Phoenix TCA. We believe the user groups have benefited the FAA and would like a commitment from the FAA to continue to utilize this process in the design of future TCA and ARSA locations.

Sincerely

**Phil Boyer
President**

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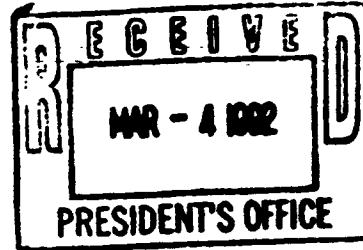


U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Aviation
Administration

Office of the Administrator

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

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Mr. Phil Boyer
President, Aircraft Owners
and Pilots Association
421 Aviation Way
Frederick, MD 21701-4798

Dear Phil:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) policy to involve user groups in the initial terminal control area and airport radar service area rulemaking process.

The FAA shares the sentiments expressed in your letter concerning the value of user group participation. We have adopted a policy of conducting informal airspace meetings and working closely with the local user groups prior to a regulatory proposal. We intend to continue this policy. We are committed to providing the public with the safest possible airspace system; yet, we do not intend to impose any undue restrictions in pursuit of that goal.

The recommendations of user groups and other members of the general aviation public will receive careful consideration during the rulemaking process. I find that the early advice from user groups is of great benefit to our decisionmaking on airspace actions.

I appreciate your continued support and look forward to working with the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and other user groups of the system.

Sincerely,

Barry Lambert Harris
Acting Administrator