

Media Advisory

Federal Aviation Administration, Alaskan Region
222 W. 7th Avenue / Anchorage, AK 99513-7587



Contact: Leslie Grey, (907) 271-5453

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EIS Process starts for Kodiak Airport Runway Safety Areas *(Informal Public Meetings forthcoming, followed by EIS process)*

- The FAA Alaskan Region Airports Division will begin an Environmental Impact Statement process February 2007 on the improvement of deficient Runway Safety Areas at Kodiak Airport.
- Kodiak Airport has two runways with insufficient Runway Safety Areas. To meet FAA's airport design standards for adequate Runway Safety Areas, alternatives will be considered in the EIS to enhance the existing buffer areas. Alternatives to be evaluated include the relocation, shifting, or realignment of runways, and the recent newly developed Engineered Material Arresting System (crushable concrete that rapidly decelerates an aircraft rolling through it).
- A Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS will be published in the Federal Register in early February, starting the process. Public Scoping meetings will then be held, followed by a Draft EIS preparation, public hearings on the Draft, and preparation of the Final EIS and decision document. The EIS process is slated for completion sometime in 2009 / early 2010. The public will have several opportunities to provide comments.
- A series of public Scoping Meetings will be announced soon to identify significant issues and alternatives to consider during the EIS process.
- An initial informal introductory meeting has been held involving representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska Coastal Management Program, Soil and Water Conservation and many others. The meetings provided opportunity to raise potential environmental issues and concerns for consideration in the EIS.
- Interested parties will be able to obtain information and submit comments on the project at the project's website (www.kodiakairporteis.com).

X X X