



June 5, 2015

George R. Temple, First Selectman
Oxford Town Hall
486 Oxford Road
Oxford, CT 06478-1298

RE: Waterbury-Oxford Airport
Environmental Assessment for Obstruction Removal and Lighting
Connecticut Airport Authority

Dear First Selectman Temple:

The Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA) has conducted a detailed study to evaluate existing obstructions that penetrate Waterbury-Oxford Airport's (Airport) federally protected airspace. These obstructions are primarily trees located near runway ends or located on small hills surrounding the Airport. As a follow-up study, the CAA is reviewing the potential impacts of removing trees and/or installing a pole-mounted red obstruction light in areas that contain airspace obstructions.

To accomplish this, the CAA is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) under federal and state regulations to identify affected properties and any potential environmental issues of removing trees and/or installing pole-mounted red obstruction lights. No actual tree removal or construction activities are pending at this time; just the required evaluation. As more information becomes available it will be posted on the following website: <http://waterburyairport.caa-analysis.com>.

Several properties in the Town of Oxford have been identified as potentially having an obstruction that penetrates the federally protected airspace. A map identifying the existing tree obstruction areas and a list of affected parcel is enclosed.

The CAA has contracted with the consulting firm of Clough Harbour Associates (CHA) to prepare the required environmental assessment. CHA will be conducting visual reviews of the subject areas. In many instances the field personnel will complete their review from the public right-of-way; however in certain instances personnel may find it necessary to briefly enter private property to observe trees and site conditions with permission from homeowners. These inspections will occur in the spring and summer of 2015. These personnel will all carry proper identification (sample attached).

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this project, please contact Jean Loewenstein with CHA. She can be reached (518) 453-8771 or via email at jloewenstein@chacompanies.com.

Sincerely,

Kevin A. Dillon, A.A.E.
Executive Director

Enclosure



June 5, 2015

Edward B. St. John, First Selectman
Middlebury Town Hall
1212 Whittemore Road
Middlebury, CT 06762

RE: Waterbury-Oxford Airport
Environmental Assessment for Obstruction Removal and Lighting
Connecticut Airport Authority

Dear First Selectman St. John:

The Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA) has conducted a detailed study to evaluate existing obstructions that penetrate Waterbury-Oxford Airport's (Airport) federally protected airspace. These obstructions are primarily trees located near runway ends or located on small hills surrounding the Airport. As a follow-up study, the CAA is reviewing the potential impacts of removing trees and/or installing a pole-mounted red obstruction light in areas that contain airspace obstructions.

To accomplish this, the CAA is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) under federal and state regulations to identify affected properties and any potential environmental issues of removing trees and/or installing pole-mounted red obstruction lights. No actual tree removal or construction activities are pending at this time; just the required evaluation. As more information becomes available it will be posted on the following website: <http://waterburyairport.caa-analysis.com>.

Several properties in the Town of Middlebury have been identified as potentially having an obstruction that penetrates the federally protected airspace. A map identifying the existing tree obstruction areas and a list of affected parcel is enclosed.

The CAA has contracted with the consulting firm of Clough Harbour Associates (CHA) to prepare the required environmental assessment. CHA will be conducting visual reviews of the subject areas. In many instances the field personnel will complete their review from the public right-of-way; however in certain instances personnel may find it necessary to briefly enter private property to observe trees and site conditions with permission from homeowners. These inspections will occur in the spring and summer of 2015. These personnel will all carry proper identification (sample attached).

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this project, please contact Jean Loewenstein with CHA. She can be reached (518) 453-8771 or via email at jloewenstein@chacompanies.com.

Sincerely,

Kevin A. Dillon, A.A.E.
Executive Director

Enclosure



June 31, 2015

RE: Waterbury-Oxford Airport
Environmental Assessment for Obstruction Removal and Lighting
Affected Property Address:

Dear Property Owner:

The Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA) has conducted a detailed study to evaluate existing obstructions that penetrate the federally protected airspace. These obstructions are primarily trees located near runway ends or located on small hills surrounding the Airport. As a follow-up study, the CAA is reviewing the potential environmental impacts of tree removal, and selective clearing and/or thinning in areas that contain airspace obstructions.

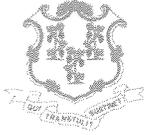
To accomplish this, the CAA is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) under federal and state procedures to identify affected properties and any potential environmental issues of removing trees and/or installing a pole-mounted red obstruction lights. No actual tree removal or construction activities are pending at this time; just the required evaluation. A map of the existing tree obstruction areas is included. As more information becomes available it will be posted on the following website: <http://waterburyairport.caa-analysis.com/>.

Your property has been identified as potentially having an obstruction that penetrates the federally protected airspace. As a result of the possible obstruction, the study requires a CAA contractor, Clough Harbour Associates (CHA) to conduct visual reviews of the subject areas. In many instances the field personnel will conduct their review from the public right-of-way; however in certain instances personnel may find it necessary to briefly enter private property to observe trees and site conditions in the summer and fall of 2015. These personnel will all carry proper identification.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the field observation, please contact Jean Loewenstein with CHA. She can be reached at (518) 453-8771 or via email at rloewenstein2@chacompanies.com.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Bruno
Director of Planning, Engineering and Environmental
Connecticut Airport Authority



November 17, 2015

Ms. Jean Lowenstein
CHA, Inc.
3 Winners Circle
Albany, NY 12205

Subject: Connecticut Airport Authority NEPA Environmental Assessment for Obstruction
Removal and Lighting at
Hartford-Brainard Airport, Hartford (CHA 29067)
Danielson Airport, Killingly (CHA 29067)
Waterford-Oxford Airport, Oxford (CHA 29067)
Windham Airport, Windham (CHA 29067)
Bradley International Airport, Windsor Locks (CHA 29055)

Dear Ms. Lowenstein:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed your request for our comments regarding potential effects to historic properties for the referenced project. The existing airports referenced above have been identified as needing tree removal and pole mounted obstruction beacons. The review request currently exceeds the staffing available at this office. A preliminary review completed by this office identified archeological sites and/or historic districts within or in close proximity to each of the identified facilities. SHPO understands that the tree removal will be done with as little ground disturbance as possible, without grubbing and grading. As a result, this office considers the potential impact to archeological sites from obstruction removal to be minimal, if any.

SHPO is concerned, however, with the effects of the proposed beacons on archeological sites and historic buildings. Several of the proposed beacons are located in areas where archeological sites have been reported, as well as historic buildings or districts. We are therefore requesting that a professional cultural resources assessment and reconnaissance survey be completed prior to construction of any beacons. The survey should take into consideration potential indirect impacts on structures older than fifty years that may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. An archeological assessment should determine the appropriate level of investigation based on sufficient research and field visits. Subsurface testing for archeological resources, if warranted, should assess all areas of anticipated ground disturbance that are considered to have a moderate/high sensitivity for containing significant archeological deposits. All work should be in compliance with our *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archeological Resources* and no construction or other project-related ground disturbance should be initiated until SHPO has had an opportunity to review and comment upon the requested survey.

The SHPO appreciates the opportunity to review and comment upon this project. These comments are provided in accordance with the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended. For additional information, please contact me at (860) 256-2764 or catherine.labadia@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Catherine Labadia
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

State Historic Preservation Office

One Constitution Plaza | Hartford, CT 06103 | P: 860.256.2800 | Cultureandtourism.org

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September 30, 2015

Ms. Catherine Labadia, Staff Archeologist
Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development
Offices of Culture and Tourism
State Historic Preservation Office
One Constitution Plaza-2nd Floor
Hartford, CT. 06103

**RE: Connecticut Airport Authority Waterbury-Oxford Airport
NEPA Environmental Assessment (and CEPA EIE) for Obstruction Removal &
Lighting
CHA Project No.: 29067**

Dear Ms. Labadia:

Thank you for your recent assistance regarding submittal requirements to the Connecticut SHPO. On behalf of the Connecticut Airport Authority, CHA is submitting a request for review of the above referenced project located at Waterbury-Oxford Airport and vicinity, in the Town of Oxford, New Haven County Connecticut.

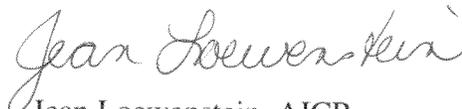
The Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA) previously conducted a detailed study to evaluate existing obstructions that penetrate the federally protected airspace. These obstructions are primarily trees located near runway ends or located on small hills surrounding the Airport. As a follow-up study, the CAA is reviewing the potential impacts of tree removal, and selective clearing or installation of pole-mounted red obstruction beacons in areas that contain airspace obstructions. Objects that penetrate these surfaces are classified as airspace obstructions, and should be removed to safely accommodate approaching and departing aircraft.

To accomplish this, the CAA is conducting an NEPA Environmental Assessment (EA) and CEPA Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) to identify affected properties and any potential environmental issues of removing trees and/or installing obstruction lights. No actual tree removal or construction activities are pending at this time; just the required evaluation. Tree removal or obstruction light installation will be accomplished under a future project. Maps outlining the potential location for tree removal and possible siting locations for the beacons are enclosed and can also be found at the project website. The web address is as follows: <http://waterburyairport.caa-analysis.com>.

As part of this evaluation of potential impacts we are requesting that SHPO review the draft mapping of potential tree removal areas and beacon installation locations as it relates to historic and archeological resources so that potential impacts may be considered in future actions. It should also be noted that when tree removal does occur it will generally include clearing, without grubbing or grading and will be implemented with minimal soil disturbance (e.g., removal to trees, with retention stumps and undergrowth).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 518-453-8771 or jloewenstein@chacompanies.com or the CAA Director of Engineering Robert Bruno at (860) 254-5516 or rbruno@ctairports.org.

Sincerely,



Jean Loewenstein, AICP
Senior Planner

JL/sc

Enc.

Cc: Colin Goegel, Project Manager, CAA
Robert Bruno, Director of Planning Engineering and Environmental, CAA
Matt Kelly, Airport Manager

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September 30, 2015

Mr. Thomas Tyler, Director
Bureau of Outdoor Recreation
Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127

**RE: Connecticut Airport Authority- Waterbury-Oxford Airport
Environmental Assessment for Obstruction Removal and Lighting
CHA File: 29067**

Dear Mr. Tyler:

On behalf of the Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA), CHA is submitting a request for review of the above referenced project located at Waterbury-Oxford Airport and vicinity, in the Town of Oxford, New Haven County Connecticut as it relates to resources defined by Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

The CAA has conducted a detailed study to evaluate existing obstructions that penetrate the federally protected airspace. These obstructions are primarily trees located near runway ends or located on small hills surrounding the Airport. As a follow-up study, the CAA and FAA are reviewing the potential impacts of tree removal, and selective clearing or installation of pole-mounted red obstruction beacons in areas that contain airspace obstructions. Objects that penetrate these surfaces are classified as airspace obstructions, and should be removed to safely accommodate approaching and departing aircraft.

To accomplish this, the CAA is conducting a NEPA Environmental Assessment (EA) and CEPA Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) to identify affected properties and any potential environmental issues of removing trees and/or installing a pole-mounted red obstruction lights. No actual tree removal or construction activities are pending at this time; just the required evaluation. Tree removal or obstruction light installation will be accomplished under a future project following appropriate approvals. Maps identifying the potential location for tree removal and possible siting locations for the beacons are enclosed and can also be found at the project website. The web address is as follows:
<http://waterburyairport.caa-analysis.com/>.

A portion of the Larkin State Park Trail skirts the southern boundary of the airport near the end of Runway 36 in an area of that includes the potential for both the removal and selective removal of trees. Recognizing that the trail system is an important statewide resource, we would like your office to review the locations of the potential selective thinning and clearing as it relates to 4(f) resources. It should be noted that when tree removal does occur it will generally include clearing, without grubbing or grading

grubbing or grading and will be implemented with minimal soil disturbance (e.g., removal to trees, with retention stumps and undergrowth).

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions regarding this project, please feel free to contact me at 518-453-8771 or jloewenstein@chacompanies.com or the CAA Director of Engineering, Robert Bruno at (860) 254-5516 or rbruno@ctairports.org.

Sincerely,


Jean Loewenstein, AICP
Senior Planner

Enc.

cc: Colin Goegel, Project Manager, CAA
Robert Bruno, Director of Planning, Engineering and Environmental, CAA
Matt Kelly, Airport Manager