



February 22, 2010

Senator Richard Lugar
United States Senate
306 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

As the United States Senate begins the Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriations process, I respectfully submit for your consideration the following Airport Snow and Ice Control Equipment Project for Fort Wayne International Airport (FWA).

Last year, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued a Safety Alert for Operators commenting that between December 17, 2008 and January 18, 2009 sixteen air carrier and corporate aircraft veered off airport paved surfaces because of poor reporting of braking conditions. Every year the FAA emphasizes the importance of providing continuous timely accurate runway condition reports to pilots.

In fact, in addition to removing snow in a timely manner, Federal Aviation Regulations - Part 139 requires airports to assess and report the conditions of the airfield pavement to their users. One of the critical items to be reported is the characteristics of the braking ability, which is measured by specialized equipment known as Continuous Friction Measurement Equipment (CFME). The CFME devices are the preferred equipment for airports that have significant turbojet aircraft operations (e.g., FWA) and are recommended for measuring friction characteristics of pavement surfaces covered with frozen contaminants. CFMEs provide a continuous graphic record of the pavement surface friction characteristics, which serves as valuable data needed by airport operators and pilots. More importantly, by utilizing the CFME, FWA will enhance safety and ensure compliance with FAA requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. I look forward to working with you and your dedicated staff on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Richardson".

Torrance A. Richardson, A.A.E.
Executive Director of Airports
Fort Wayne-Alten County Airport Authority

cc: LeAnne Gibbs, Projects Director