



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

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Western-Pacific Region
Office of the Regional Administrator

P.O. Box 92007
Los Angeles, CA 90009-2007



The Honorable W. J. "Jim" Lane
Mayor of the City of Scottsdale
3939 Drinkwater Boulevard
Scottsdale, Arizona 85251

Dear Mayor Lane:

Thank you for your letter dated January 21, 2015, regarding the departure procedures from the Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport (PHX), which overfly North Scottsdale.

A noise analysis was conducted as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process using an approved model to evaluate the noise impacts that occurred in this area. The analysis indicated no significant or reportable noise increases were expected from the change to the departure procedures. Per Federal Aviation Administration Order 1050.1, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures, a significant noise impact would occur if analysis shows that the action will cause noise sensitive areas to experience an increase of +1.5 Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL), or more in areas exposed to DNL 65 decibels (dB) and higher. A reportable noise increase would occur if analysis shows that the action will cause noise sensitive areas to experience an increase of DNL +3 dB or more within areas exposed to DNL 60-65 dB, and DNL +5 dB or more within areas exposed to DNL 45-60 dB. The analysis showed that none of these threshold levels were reached.

We also reviewed the radar data using the Performance Data Analysis and Reporting System (PDARS) as part of the post-implementation evaluation. The analysis indicates a concentration of aircraft overflying a portion of North Scottsdale. The majority of these aircraft in that area are between 7,000 and 8,000 feet above ground level. While the sound of aircraft at these altitudes may be noticed, the noise levels are not at a level of significance that requires mitigation.

Thank you for this opportunity to answer your inquiry. If you need further help, please contact me or Tamara A. Swann, Regional Executive Manager, at (310) 725-3550.

Sincerely,

Glen A. Martin
Regional Administrator