

Part 150 Presentation

Public Workshop 2

June 9, 2010

Seattle Tacoma International Airport

Classroom B

Ways to Reduce Noise

Noise From Aircraft on the Ground

Public Comment:

Participants reported being disrupted by ground noise

- Engine run-ups, taxiway noise, and reverse thrust noise
- Areas south and west of the Airport reported this
- Suggestions included hush house and installation of noise berms/walls or vegetation

Background:

- Most often noticed when other noise sources are reduced
- Tends to travel along the ground and is affected by terrain or elevation changes
- Solutions typically require land, can be costly, and have limitations on effectiveness

Noise From Aircraft on the Ground

Possible Recommendations:

- Identify noise metrics that relate to ground noise to help define the conditions
- Hush-house
- Develop a noise berm/wall feasibility study
- Consider voluntary actions that limit/discourage nighttime run-ups
- Consider voluntary actions that manage power settings on reverse thrust and taxi power (in particular on the third runway)



Noise From Aircraft on the Ground

Feedback from Public:

- What areas are most affected by ground noise and from what activities?

Noise From Activity on Third Runway

Public Comment:

Participants reported being disrupted by the opening of the third runway

- Areas north and south of the centerline of the runway
- Reports of new or unexpected impacts
- Suggestions included limitations on runway use and development of a runway use plan

Background:

- The third runway opened in November 2008, followed by closure of Rwy. 16L/34R from April – October 2009
- Public expressed concerns on the use of third runway during the Rwy. 16L/34R closure period
- Noise effects today are primarily a result of arrival overflights and ground noise

Noise From Activity on Third Runway

Possible Recommendations:

- Develop a runway use plan to clearly identify when and how the third runway will be used to minimize noise
 - During peak hours
 - During off-peak hours
 - During runway closures or other unusual conditions
- Encourage voluntary actions that manage power settings on reverse thrust and taxi power when using the third runway

Noise From Activity on Third Runway

Feedback from Public:

- Would a clearly defined runway use plan for the airport help you to understand when and how the third runway is being used?

Noise From Activity at Night

Public Comment:

Participants reported being disrupted by nighttime activity

- Included flight activity and ground noise
- Suggestions included limitations on activity at night and programs to encourage airlines to not fly at night

Background:

- Nighttime activity is often more noticeable due to reduced background noise
- People are generally more sensitive to nighttime noise because activities, such as sleep, tend to require lower noise levels

Noise From Activity at Night

Possible Recommendations:

- Develop a runway use plan that focuses on Runways 16C and 16L when traffic allows
- Encourage voluntary actions by airlines to not schedule flights at night
- Encourage limited reverse thrust and taxi power at night
- Establish limits on nighttime engine maintenance and use of a hush house



Noise From Activity at Night

Feedback from Public:

- Describe your experience with disruptive nighttime events?

Concerns About Sound Insulation

Public Comment:

Participants reported concerns about the insulation program

- People residing near the third runway requested additional treatment
- Others suggested larger/ more comprehensive boundaries
- Additional comments focused on the quality of the treatment and lack of air conditioning

Background:

- SEATAC has one of the most comprehensive programs in the country
- FAA eligibility requirements can make boundaries appear to be arbitrary, but are based on the 65 DNL contour
- Windows and doors have a useful life expectancy that may be near for some of the first homes in the program

Concerns About Sound Insulation

Possible Recommendations:

- Reestablish boundaries based on new 65 DNL contours
- Take a comprehensive approach at the edges of the new boundaries to limit cutoffs that appear arbitrary
- Consider offering grants or loans to homeowners outside of the new boundaries that wish to upgrade or sell their home
- Consider installation of air conditioning to allow homeowners to keep windows closed during the summer months



Concerns About Sound Insulation

Feedback from Public:

- Air conditioning vs. Programs that help homeowners to sell their homes
- Which of the two would be more appealing to you?

General Feedback

Feedback from Public:

- What technical information, such as statistics or noise information, would be helpful for you to participate more fully in the Part 150 process?