



**FEMA**

September 5, 2007

Mr. Fred Anderton, Airport Manager  
Lunken Airport Terminal  
262 Wilmer Avenue Rm 23  
Cincinnati, OH 45226

Dear Mr. Anderton:

This letter is in regard to the Lunken Field Airport Levee shown on the effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and in the effective Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for Hamilton County, OH. As you may know, the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is in the process of producing a countywide FIS report and Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) for Hamilton County, OH.

As part of FEMA's effort to produce the DFIRM, it was determined that the flood hazard information presented on the effective FIRM and in the effective FIS report is based, in some areas, on flood protection provided by the Lunken Field Airport Levee. Based on the information available and on the mapping standards of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) at the time that the FIS was performed, FEMA accredited the levee with providing protection from the flood that has a 1-percent-chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The 1-percent-annual-chance flood also is referred to as the base flood.

- \* The Lunken Field Airport Levee does not meet the requirements set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Section 65.10 (44 CFR 65.10), which is required for the levee to be accredited as providing base flood protection. Therefore, the levee cannot be shown on the DFIRM as providing protection from the base flood.

The levee will be de-accredited on the DFIRM. A teleconference was held on August 13, 2007 to inform you of the de-accreditation process. The area landward of the levee will be mapped as Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Therefore, the mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements of the NFIP will apply to these areas when the DFIRM becomes effective. In addition, local floodplain management ordinances must be enforced in these areas. It is highly recommended that you consider this risk in your local emergency management plans, including creating evacuation plans for this area.

- \* FEMA will issue Preliminary Maps when the de-accredited mapping is completed. At that time, FEMA will meet with you and the public regarding the revised maps. Following this meeting, a 90-day Appeal/Protest Period will be held concerning mapped flooding sources for which the proposed base flood elevations will change. When all Appeals/Protests are resolved, FEMA will issue the Letter of Final Determination. Final DFIRMs will be distributed that will become effective 6 months after the date of the Letter of Final Determination.
- \* We encourage you to inform property owners behind the levee of this change. FEMA has produced a variety of outreach materials which can be used to educate and inform the public about the risks



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associated with levees and how they can better protect themselves against those risks. These materials are located online at: [http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/lv\\_intro.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/lv_intro.shtm)

If you need additional information or assistance, please contact Mike Hanke of my staff, by email at [mike.hanke@dhs.gov](mailto:mike.hanke@dhs.gov) or by telephone at (312) 408-5364.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Norbert Schwartz".

Norbert Schwartz  
Director, Mitigation Division  
FEMA Region V

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Mark Mallory, Mayor, City of Cincinnati  
Mr. William Langevin, Director of Building & Inspections, Floodplain Administrator  
Ms. Cindy Crecelius, NFIP Coordinator, ODNR  
Mr. Jonathan Sorg, ODNR  
Ms. Emily Ruehl, FMSM  
Mr. Robert Murdock, Regional Management Center 5  
Senator George Voinovich, Washington, DC, Office  
Senator Sherrod Brown, Washington, DC, Office  
Representative Jean Schmidt, Washington, DC, Office

# DE-ACCREDITATION OF LUNKEN AIRPORT LEVEE



## Legend

Current Unprotected  
100 Year Floodplain

Approx. Remapped Area  
without Flood Protection