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John R. Cooper  
TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

September 22, 2011

The Honorable Harry A. Mason  
Mayor, City of Pine Hill  
P. O. Drawer 397  
Pine Hill, Alabama 36769

**Subject: Annual Inspection Report  
Pine Hill Municipal Airport**

Dear Mayor Mason:

An inspection of the Pine Hill Municipal Airport was conducted by personnel of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on September 6, 2011. The purpose of the inspection was to update the information currently on file regarding the airport and to ascertain compliance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Department of Transportation governing licensed public-use airports within the State of Alabama.

Attached you will find a copy of the Annual Inspection Report for the airport. As noted in the report, the airport **does not** meet the requirements for the issuance of an operating license. The operating license for the airport is being withheld pending the required actions necessary to correct the safety deficiencies. The Code of Alabama 23-1-375 prohibits the operation of an airport for which a license has not been issued.

The violations noted in the report are re-occurring and are serious. The city should formulate a plan to correct the safety violations and maintenance items and forward that plan to the Aeronautics Bureau within the next thirty days or contact the Aeronautics Bureau for guidance/procedures for closing the airport.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Aeronautics Bureau at (334) 242-6820.

Sincerely,

John C. Eagerton IV, D.P.A.  
Chief, Aeronautics Bureau

SEPTEMBER 6, 2011



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT



PINE HILL MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

PINE HILL, ALABAMA

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# Annual Inspection Report Pine Hill Municipal Airport Pine Hill, Alabama

September 6, 2011

## **Introduction:**

**Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c).** The department may perform such acts, issue and amend such orders and make, promulgate, or amend general or special rules, regulations, and procedures and establish minimum standards, consistent with the provisions of this article as it shall deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this article and to perform its duties hereunder, all commensurate with and for the purpose of protecting and insuring the general public interest, health, welfare, and safety. (Act 2000-220, 10.)

In accordance with the provisions of the Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c) an inspection of the Pine Hill Municipal Airport was conducted by Mr. Kline Jeffcoat of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on September 6, 2011.

The corrective actions that may be prescribed in this inspection report do not relieve the airport owner from compliance with any other Federal, State or local laws, ordinances or regulations that may be applicable. It is the responsibility of the airport owner to be aware of and obey all Federal, State or local laws, ordinances or regulations that may have a bearing on the corrective actions that may be specified in this report.

## **Inspection Methodology:**

The inspection of the required State Approach/Departure Path and Federal Runway Protection Zones was accomplished by the use of approved engineering methods and equipment. The angles, locations and heights of trees or other objects within these areas were derived by the use of a Theodolite and electronic distance measuring device.

All other areas of the inspection were conducted visually and photographed for reference purposes.

# Annual Inspection Report Pine Hill Municipal Airport Pine Hill, Alabama

September 6, 2011

## License Status:

**Code of Alabama 23-1-375(a).** ...a person or municipality may not operate an airport, restricted landing area, or other air navigation facility without a license issued by the department.

Based upon the findings of the inspection conducted on September 6, 2011, it was determined that the airport **does not** meet the requirements for the issuance of an operating license.

The inspection was conducted on the airport under the provisions of the Administrative Code for the following areas:

### **1. Approach and Departure Paths** **Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(1)** (See Appendix 1)

#### State Licensing Standards:

- For all hard surface runways the approach and departure path begins 200 feet from the runway end (runway threshold).
- The approach and departure path for all runways is centered along the extended runway centerline and extends for 1000 feet.
- The approach and departure path for all runways slopes up at a ratio of 20:1.
- All penetrations of the approach and departure paths, whether natural or manmade, constitute an obstruction to navigation and must be removed.
- The land beneath the approach and departure path must be controlled by the airport owner. This is accomplished by ownership of the property in fee simple or by written perpetual agreement with the owner of the land.

#### Inspection Results:

- Runway 9: Trees identified as Tree # 1, and Tree # 2 violate the 20:1 approach/departure path (See Photo # 1 and Appendix 2).
- Runway 27: Trees identified as Tree # 5, Tree # 6, Tree # 7, Tree # 8, and Tree # 9, violate the 20:1 approach/departure path (See Photo # 2 and Appendix 3).

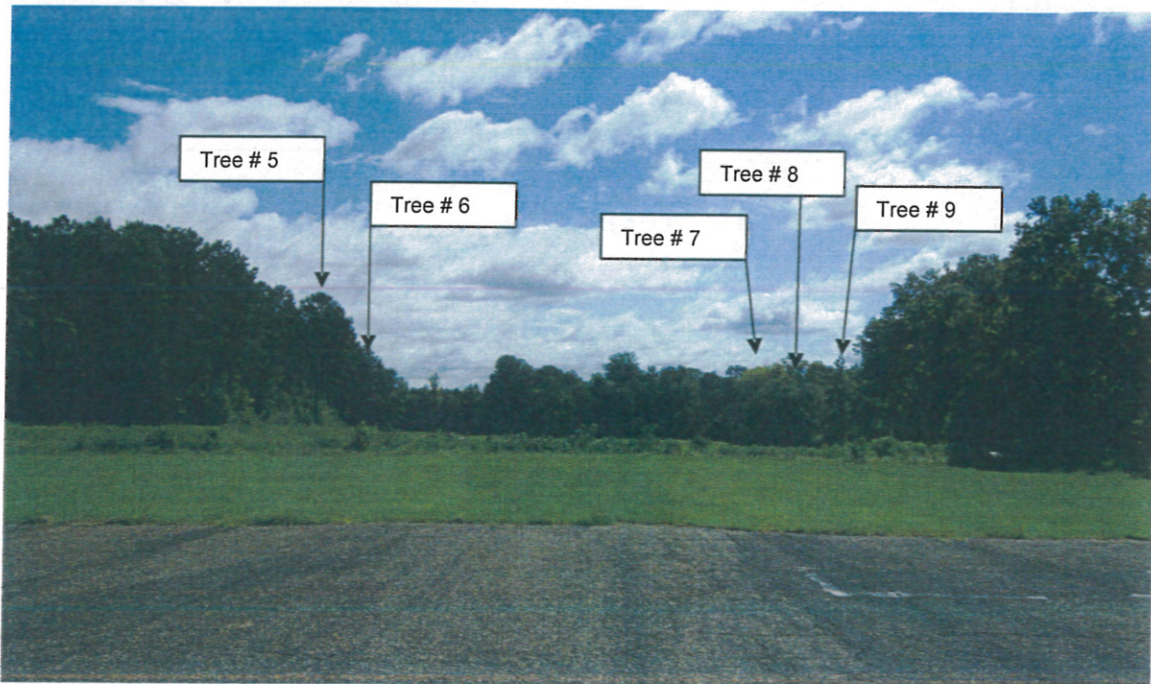
# Annual Inspection Report Pine Hill Municipal Airport Pine Hill, Alabama

September 6, 2011

Photo # 1 – Rwy 9 Obstructions



Photo # 2 – Rwy 27 Obstructions



# Annual Inspection Report Pine Hill Municipal Airport Pine Hill, Alabama

September 6, 2011

## Required Action:

- While these are representative of obstructions in the approach departure path of runway 9/27 they are not all the obstructions that violate the 20:1 approach/departure path. All obstructions must be removed before an operating license may be issued.

## 2. Primary Surface Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(2)

### State Licensing Standards:

- Primary Surface (See Appendix 1): The primary surface is 250 feet wide, centered on the runway centerline and extends 200 feet past the end of the marked runway. The primary surface is required to be free of all obstructions, manmade or natural. The only allowable objects are runway lights, guidance signs, or navigation equipment that by function is required to be within the primary surface boundaries.

### Inspection Results:

- The primary surface meets state requirements (See Photo # 3).

**Photo # 3 – Primary Surface and Safety Area**



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September 6, 2011

**3. Runway Safety Area  
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(3)**

**State Licensing Standards:**

- Runway Safety Area (Appendix 1): All runways are required to maintain an obstruction free area adjacent to each runway. This area is 120 feet wide, centered on the runway centerline, and extends for a distance of 200 feet past the runway end. The area must be compacted and graded smooth with no ruts, humps, depressions or other potentially hazardous surface variations. The slope along the longitudinal centerline shall not exceed a rise or fall of three percent in elevation relative to the runway end elevation. The lip from the top of the pavement to the grade adjacent to the runway should not exceed 3 inches.

**Inspection Results:**

- The runway safety area meets state requirements (See Photo # 3).

**4. Airport Markings  
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(4)**

**State Licensing Standards:**

- Airport Markings: All runways are required to be marked in a manner identifying the boundaries of the landing areas. The runway markings must be painted white and be maintained in a legible condition.

**Inspection Results:**

- The runway markings are in poor condition due to fading (See Photo # 4).

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September 6, 2011

Photo # 4 – Runway Markings



## **Maintenance:**

- Markings should be replaced in accordance with FAA AC 150/5340-1K.

## **5. Wind Direction Indicator Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(5)**

### **State Licensing Standards:**

- Wind Direction Indicators: All airports are required to have an operational wind direction indicator. It must be installed in a highly visible area and free from obstructions to ensure true wind direction and velocity. Night operations require the indicator be lighted.

### **Inspection Results:**

- The wind direction indicator (windsock) is operational.

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**6. Airport Lighting  
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(6)**

**State Licensing Standards:**

- Airport Lighting: Runway lights and airport rotating beacons and a lighted wind direction indicator are required for night operations. All runway, threshold, and taxiway lighting shall be maintained in operational condition and shall not be obscured by natural growth such as grass and/or weeds.

**Inspection Results:**

- The airport is not equipped with a lighting system.

**7. Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions  
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(7)**

**State Licensing Standards:**

- Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions: All airport pavement surfaces associated with aircraft operations must be kept smooth and free of any defect or obstruction that could damage an aircraft. The lip of the airport pavement surfaces must not exceed three (3) inches in elevation from the top of the pavement to the shoulder. The drop should only be enough to allow sufficient drainage and not pose a control problem for aircraft exiting the runway. The aircraft parking apron is for the operation and parking of aircraft only and should be smooth and free of obstructions or defects that could cause damage to aircraft during operations.

**Inspection Results**

- The airport pavement surfaces are in poor condition, characterized by widespread reflective, paving joint, edge, block, and alligator cracking. There is also widespread raveling and some areas of deterioration and failure. (See Photos # 5 - # 7).

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**Photo # 5 – Deterioration with Loose Aggregate**



**Photo # 6 – Alligator Cracks**



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**Photo # 7 – Runway with Pothole and Debris**



**Required Action:**

- Runway needs reconstruction.

**8. Fueling Area Requirements  
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(8)**

**State Licensing Standards**

- Signs should be posted prohibiting open flames or smoking in fueling areas. The fueling facility must be labeled indicating the type fuel being dispensed.
- Grounding cables must be available.
- A fire extinguisher approved for the purpose of extinguishing petroleum product fires available during all fueling operations.
- Serviceable hoses and connections that would preclude a rupture or leaking of fuel.

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**Inspection Results**

- Fuel service is not available at this airport.

**9. Prohibited Activities  
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.16**

**State Licensing Standards**

- Prohibited Activities: The use of any portion of the aircraft operations area, or airport property within the boundaries of the imaginary surfaces of a licensed airport for any purpose other than the operation of aircraft shall be deemed a non-aeronautical activity and is prohibited.

**Inspection Results**

- No prohibited activities were observed during this inspection.

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Pine Hill, Alabama**

September 6, 2011

**Summary**

The table below summarizes items noted in this report.

**INSPECTION SUMMARY**

<b>Inspection Area</b>	<b>Violation/Maintenance</b>	<b>Corrective Action</b>
Approach/ Departure Path Rwy 9/27	Violation	Clear obstructions
Airport Markings	Maintenance	Re-mark IAW FAA AC 150/5340-1K
Runway Surface	Violation	Reconstruct Runway

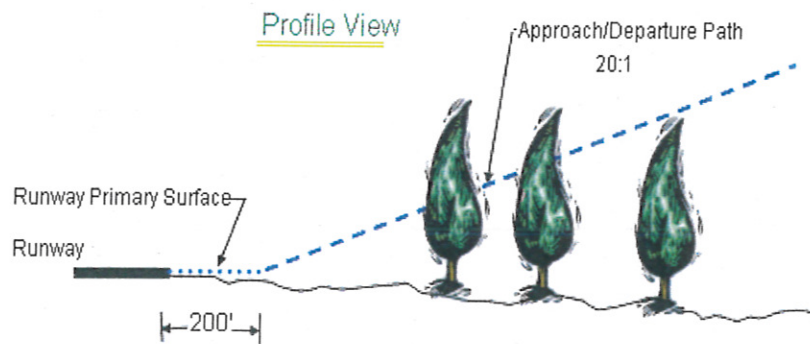
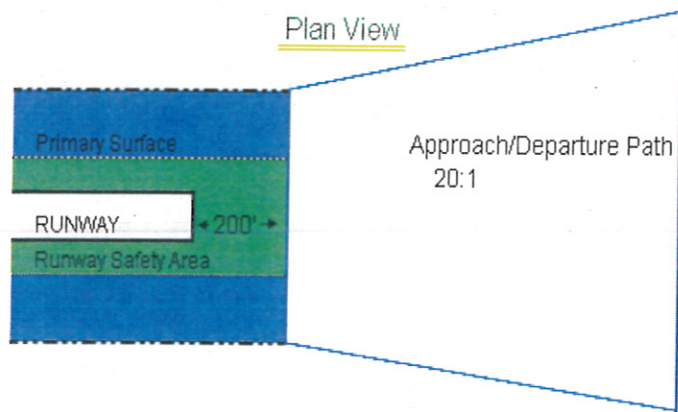
Included with this report is an airport safety self-inspection checklist. This checklist is taken from FAA Advisory Circular (AC) 150/5200-18C and should be used in accordance with this AC to develop your own self-inspection program.

Please contact the Aeronautics Bureau of the Alabama Department of Transportation at (334) 242-6820 with questions concerning the Annual Inspection Report.

# Annual Inspection Report Pine Hill Municipal Airport Pine Hill, Alabama

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Approach and Departure Path Dimensions			
Inner Width	Outer Width	Length	Acreage
250 Feet	450 Feet	1,000 Feet	8.04 Acres
Primary Surface Dimensions			
250 Feet Wide Centered Along Runway Centerline Extending 200 Feet Past the Runway End			
Runway Safety Area Dimensions			
120 Feet Wide Centered Along Runway Centerline Extending 200 Feet Past the Runway End			



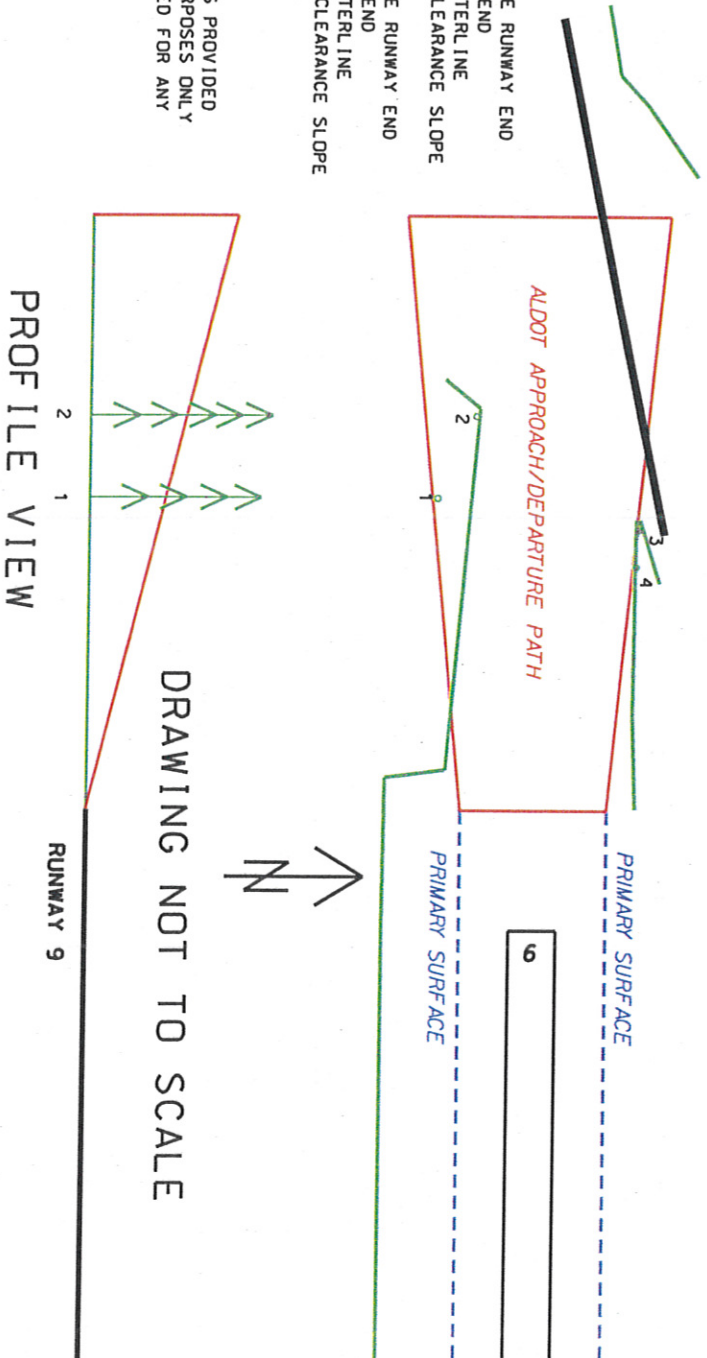
APPENDIX 1

# PINE HILL MUNICIPAL AIRPORT SEPTEMBER 6, 2011

## REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE AIRPORT LICENSE RUNWAY 9

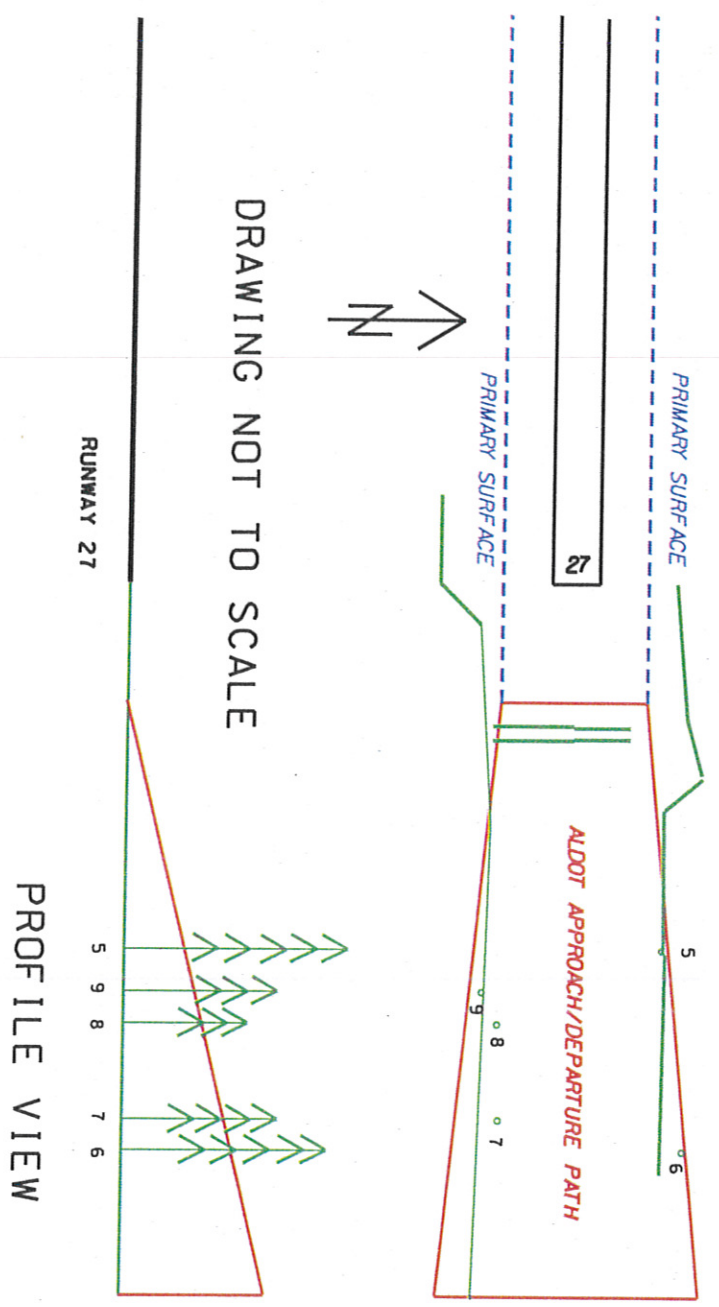
1. TREE - 58.7' ABOVE RUNWAY END  
744' FROM RUNWAY END  
170' RIGHT OF CENTERLINE  
9:1 OBSTRUCTION CLEARANCE SLOPE
2. TREE - 61.4' ABOVE RUNWAY END  
870' FROM RUNWAY END  
105' RIGHT OF CENTERLINE  
10:1 OBSTRUCTION CLEARANCE SLOPE

NOTE: THIS SKETCH IS PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE.



# PINE HILL MUNICIPAL AIRPORT SEPTEMBER 6, 2011

## REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE AIRPORT LICENSE RUNWAY 27



- 5. TREE - 76.6' ABOVE RUNWAY END  
636' FROM RUNWAY END  
155' RIGHT OF CENTERLINE  
5:1 OBSTRUCTION CLEARANCE SLOPE
- 6. TREE - 70.4' ABOVE RUNWAY END  
975' FROM RUNWAY END  
193' RIGHT OF CENTERLINE  
11:1 OBSTRUCTION CLEARANCE SLOPE
- 7. TREE - 53.4' ABOVE RUNWAY END  
912' FROM RUNWAY END  
123' LEFT OF CENTERLINE  
13:1 OBSTRUCTION CLEARANCE SLOPE
- 8. TREE - 42.7' ABOVE RUNWAY END  
753' FROM RUNWAY END  
126' LEFT OF CENTERLINE  
12:1 OBSTRUCTION CLEARANCE SLOPE
- 9. TREE - 52.9' ABOVE RUNWAY END  
705' FROM RUNWAY END  
153' LEFT OF CENTERLINE  
9:1 OBSTRUCTION CLEARANCE SLOPE

NOTE: THIS SKETCH IS PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE.

DRAWING NOT TO SCALE

PROFILE VIEW

# AIRPORT SAFETY SELF-INSPECTION CHECKLIST

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ DAY: \_\_\_\_\_

√ Satisfactory  
X Unsatisfactory

Day Inspector/Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Night Inspector/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

FACILITIES	CONDITIONS	D	N	REMARKS	RESOLVED BY (Date/Initials)
Pavement Areas	Pavement lips over 3"				
	Hole - 5" diam. 3" deep				
	Cracks/spalling/heaves				
	FOD: gravel/debris/sand				
	Rubber deposits				
	Ponding/edge dams				
Safety Areas	Ruts/humps/erosion				
	Drainage/construction				
	Support equipment/aircraft				
	Frangible bases				
	Unauthorized objects				
Markings	Clearly visible/standard				
	Runway markings				
	Taxiway markings				
	Holding position markings				
	Glass beads				
Signs	Standard/meet Sign Plan				
	Obscured/operable				
	Damaged/retroreflective				

FACILITIES	CONDITIONS	D	N	REMARKS	RESOLVED BY (Date/Initials)
Lighting	Obscured/dirty/operable				
	Damaged/missing				
	Faulty aim/adjustment				
	Runway lighting				
	Taxiway lighting				
	Pilot control lighting				
Navigational Aids	Rotating beacon operable				
	Wind indicators				
	RENs/VGSI systems				
Obstructions	Obstruction lights operable				
	Cranes/trees				
Fueling Operations	Fencing/gates/signs				
	Fuel marking/labeling				
	Fire extinguishers				
	Frayed wires				
	Fuel leaks/vegetation				
Snow & Ice	Surface conditions				
	Snowbank clearances				
	Lights & signs obscured				
	NAVAIDs				
	Fire access				

