



4910-13

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Noise Exposure Map Notice

Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport

Westfield, Massachusetts

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announces its determination that the noise exposure maps for Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport, as submitted by the City of Westfield, Massachusetts, under the provisions of Title I of the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979 (Pub. L. 96-193) and 14 CFR Part 150, are in compliance with applicable requirements.

DATES: The effective date of the FAA's determination on the noise exposure maps is December 22, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Doucette, Federal Aviation Administration, New England Region, Airports Division, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice announces that the FAA finds that the noise exposure maps submitted for Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport are in compliance with applicable requirements of Part 150, effective December 22, 2015.

Under Section 103 of Title I of the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), an airport operator may submit to the FAA noise exposure maps that meet applicable regulations and that depict non-compatible land uses as of the date of submission of such maps, a description of projected aircraft operations, and the ways in which such operations will affect such maps. The Act requires such maps to be developed in consultation with interested and affected parties in the local community, government agencies, and persons using the airport.

An airport operator who has submitted such noise exposure maps that are found by FAA to be in compliance with the requirements of Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 150, promulgated pursuant to Title I of the Act, may submit a noise compatibility program for FAA approval that sets forth the measures the operator has taken, or proposes, for the introduction of additional non-compatible uses.

The FAA has completed its review of the noise exposure map and related descriptions submitted by Westfield, Massachusetts. The specific maps under consideration were "Figure 3-9. DNL Contours for Average Daily Aircraft Operations for CY2015" and "Figure 4-1. DNL Contours for Average Daily Aircraft Operations for CY2020 NEM" in the submission. The FAA has determined that these maps for Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport are in compliance with applicable requirements. This determination is effective on December 22, 2015.

FAA's determination on an airport operator's noise exposure maps is limited to a finding that the maps were developed in accordance with the procedures contained in Appendix A of FAR Part 150. Such determination does not constitute approval of the applicant's data, information or plans, or a commitment to approve a noise compatibility program or to fund the implementation of that program.

If questions arise concerning the precise relationship of specific properties to noise exposure contours depicted on a noise exposure map submitted under Section 103 of the Act, it should be noted that the FAA is not involved in any way in determining the relative locations of specific properties with regard to the depicted noise contours, or in interpreting the noise exposure maps to resolve questions concerning, for example, which properties should be covered by the provisions of Section 107 of the Act. These functions are inseparable from the ultimate land use control and planning responsibilities of local government. These local responsibilities are not changed in any way under Part 150 or through FAA's review of a noise exposure map. Therefore, the responsibility for the detailed overlaying of noise exposure contours onto the map depicting properties on the surface rests exclusively with the airport operator that submitted the map or with those public agencies and planning agencies with which consultation is required under Section 103 of the Act. The FAA has relied on the certification by the airport operator, under Section 150.21 of FAR Part 150, that the statutorily required consultation has been accomplished.

Copies of the noise exposure maps and of the FAA's evaluation of the maps are available for examination at the following locations:

Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport  
110 Airport Drive

Westfield MA 01085

Federal Aviation Administration

New England Region, Airports Division

12 New England Executive Park

Burlington, Massachusetts 01803

Questions may be directed to the individual named above under the heading:

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts on December 22, 2015.

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Richard P. Doucette

Environmental Program Manager

FAA New England Region, Airports Division

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