



Your file *Votre référence:*

Our file *Notre Référence:*

RDIMS #: 8894675

November 8, 2013

Mr. John Livey
Deputy City Manager
C/O 24 East, City Hall
Toronto, ON
M5H 2N2

Dear Mr. Livey:

BILLY BISHOP TORONTO CITY AIRPORT

Transport Canada is mandated to among other things, promote the safety and security of Canada's transportation systems. A rigorous regulatory and oversight regime is in place to ensure that Canada's certified airports meet national regulations and standards.

Airport operators are required to comply with a large number of detailed statutes and regulations governing, among other things, safety, security and the environment. Any proposed changes to an airport's operations must be brought forward to Transport Canada by the airport operator and be assessed and approved by Transport Canada against the regulations.

As you are aware, Transport Canada received two submissions from the Toronto Port Authority for a proposed runway extension at the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport. These submissions are neither formal nor complete applications under the regulatory process. Rather, they are intended to serve as a vehicle for discussions between the Port Authority and Transport Canada to assist the Port Authority in deciding on a course of action, including whether to proceed with the very detailed and resource-intensive formal regulatory application.

The submissions are quite high-level in that they aim to facilitate an expert discussion on the regulations and standards that are likely to be factors in a complete application. Transport Canada's responses, however, are highly technical in nature. It is my understanding the Port Authority has provided the City of Toronto with at least one of these documents and is willing to provide you with a copy of the other once they have had a chance to review it themselves.

As noted above, airport certification is a very detailed and technically complex process that touches upon multiple areas of regulations and standards. Deep technical expertise is required to interpret and understand the documents that are developed as part of the regulatory process; they are not easily understood by a lay-person. For this reason, my technical staff would be pleased to meet with City officials in order to assist your staff in understanding Transport Canada's response, and the technical regulatory and standards issues that lie ahead should this project proceed.

I would like to take this opportunity to assure you that I have made it clear to the Toronto Port Authority that Transport Canada will continue to dedicate resources for any further technical reviews of similar submissions and should the Port Authority wish to proceed with the formal application process, we will make every effort to provide the resources needed. In addition, I want to assure the City of Toronto that Transport Canada approves applications for airport changes only when the submission meets the requisite Regulations and Standards.

Best regards,



Michael R. Stephenson

Regional Director General,

Ontario Region

C.c. Geoffrey Wilson, President and CEO, Toronto Port Authority.