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State of Vermont
Agency of Transportation
Rutland State Airport
1002 Airport Road
Terminal Building
No. Clarendon, VT 05759

VTTrans

Working to Get You There

Mr. Gregory Hanson
National Weather Service Field Office
1200 Airport Drive,
South Burlington, Vermont 05403
March 14th, 2007

Telephone: (802)786-8881
Fax: (802)773-5660

Dear Mr. Hanson;

The State of Vermont – Aviation Program would like to request that the National Weather Service start providing a Terminal Area Forecast (TAF) for the Rutland State Airport.

As you may know, the State owns and operates the Rutland State Airport, the airport is the largest aviation transportation hub for the southern region of Vermont with annual aircraft operations of over 40,000 per year and is one of two air carrier airports located in Vermont. As the second busiest all weather airport in the State and the recipient to a large number IFR aircraft, the airport's users have been hampered by the lack of weather forecasting services available for years.

As you may know the geographic location of Rutland is dissimilar and distance to any local area TAF forecast, thus, local users have had to "best guess" as to arrival conditions at Rutland. We have numerous requests, from fractional jet companies to local pilots, to improve the ability to obtain weather forecasting for Rutland and recently the FAA has put pressure on Commutair (our sole air carrier) to improve the weather information available to them for forecasting.

Given the adverse aviation safety implications and the possible detrimental economic impacts associated with the continued lack aviation forecasting for the Rutland State Airport, the State requests that the National Weather Service consider this request in a timely manner. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Don DeGraw
Airport Operations Specialist

Cc:
Rich Turner, Aviation Program Manager
Paul Fresch, Commutair

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