

**761—720.15(328) Airport closing.**

**720.15(1) Notice.** When an airport ceases operation for any reason, the sponsor shall notify the department, return the registration certificate and mark the landing area to clearly indicate that the airport is closed to air traffic.

**720.15(2) Marking.** All marking indicating a usable runway shall be obliterated. The sponsor shall place at a central location a yellow X in accordance with FAA Advisory Circular 150/5340-1L (Standards for Airport Markings) as amended through September 27, 2013.

**720.15(3) Temporary closing.** When conditions require the temporary closing of a runway, it shall be marked on both ends with a yellow X in accordance with FAA Advisory Circular 150/5340-1L (Standards for Airport Markings) as amended through September 27, 2013.

**720.15(4) Repayment of financial assistance.**

*a. Review of closure on or after October 4, 2017.* Within 30 days of closing an airport (other than temporary closing), the sponsor shall request from the department a review of contractual obligations that require repayment of financial assistance. The department will provide a determination detailing grant obligations that must be repaid. Any repayment of grants must be made to the department in no more than five equal annual installments, beginning one year from the airport's closure date. If an alternative future use of the airport facility is planned for a project that creates jobs and expands the economy, the sponsor may, within 30 days of the department's determination, request forgiveness of repayment. The request must include a plan detailing the alternative future use of the airport facility, an explanation of how the alternative future use creates jobs and expands the economy, a cost-benefit analysis from the sponsor, a commitment of private investment in the project equal to at least two times the amount of repayment due to the state, and a commitment from the sponsor, or associated political subdivision(s), to complete the alternative use project within five years. The department will review the request for forgiveness of repayment and approve or deny the request within 60 days of receipt.

*b. Review of closure after July 1, 2015, and before October 4, 2017.* An airport that closed after July 1, 2015 (other than temporary closing), but before October 4, 2017, is eligible to request forgiveness for repayment of financial assistance from the department. By November 3, 2017, the sponsor shall request from the department a review of contractual obligations that require repayment of financial assistance. The department will provide a determination detailing grant obligations that must be repaid. Any repayment of grants must be made to the department in no more than two equal annual installments, beginning one year from October 4, 2017. If an alternative future use of the airport facility is planned for a project that creates jobs and expands the economy, the sponsor may, within 30 days of the department's determination, request forgiveness of repayment. The request must include a plan detailing the alternative future use of the airport facility, an explanation of how the alternative future use creates jobs and expands the economy, a cost-benefit analysis from the sponsor, a commitment of private investment in the project equal to at least two times the amount of repayment due to the state, and a commitment from the sponsor, or associated political subdivision(s), to complete the alternative use project within five years. The department will review the request for forgiveness of repayment and approve or deny the request within 60 days of receipt.

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