# NY/NJ/PHL Metropolitan Area Airspace Redesign

# Draft Environmental Impact Statement DEIS

Briefing to Congressional Staffers

December 20, 2005



Federal Aviation Administration

#### Why We Need to Redesign Airspace

- Routinely, the New York and Philadelphia metropolitan areas airports are among the top 10 delayed
- Lack of alternate routes closes off airspace in cases of severe weather
- Multiple facilities fragment arrival and departure corridors



 Complexity and congestion continue to be issues even with post-September 11 downturn



#### **Objectives of NY/NJ/PHL Metropolitan Area Airspace Redesign**

- Purpose
  - Increase efficiency and reliability of the air traffic system through the adjustment of traffic flows in the New York/New Jersey and Philadelphia areas to accommodate new technologies and reduce delays
- Need
  - Maintain Safety
  - Respond to Increasing Aviation Growth
  - Mitigate Mounting Delays

- Eight "Purpose and Need" elements:
  - Reduce Delay
  - Improve User Access
  - Maintain Airport Throughput
  - Expedite Arrivals and Departures
  - Flexibility in Routing
  - Reduce Complexity
  - Balance Controller Workload
  - Reduce Voice Communications



#### **Overview of Alternatives**

- Four alternatives
  - Future No Action
    - Required by NEPA
  - Modifications to Existing Flows
    - Minor routing changes
    - No airspace realignment
  - Ocean Routing
    - Proposed by NJCAAN
    - Does not meet Purpose & Need
  - Integrated Airspace
    - Includes design variations with and without an Integrated Control Complex (needed to illustrate independent utility)



#### **Alternative: Future No Action**

- Procedures identical to 2004
  - Including STOEN departures from PHL (Dual Modena Departures)
- Forecast traffic levels:

		90th Percentile Operations		Above 2003 Average	
	2003 Mean	2006	2011	2006	2011
EWR	1125	1575	1634	40%	45%
JFK	798	1240	1355	55%	70%
LGA	1039	1314	1314	26%	26%
PHL	1222	1764	1922	44%	57%
TEB	592	794	900	34%	52%



#### Alternative: Modifications of Existing Airspace

- Multiple departure headings
- Establish 2<sup>nd</sup> airway for current J80/J110 traffic
- WHITE moved west, DITCH moved east
  - PHL climbs no longer restricted by NY departures
- EWR 04 departures to MIA via WAVEY.J174
  - Avoids congestion on WHITE.J209





#### **Alternative: Ocean Routing**

- Based on proposal from New Jersey Citizens Against Aircraft Noise (NJCAAN) utilizing existing airspace boundaries
- Moves EWR and JFK southbound departures over water
  - JFK arrivals moved to accommodate departure changes
- No change to jet airways





#### Alternative: Integrated Airspace (variation w/o ICC)

- Multiple departure headings
- Establish 2<sup>nd</sup> airway for current J80/J110 traffic
  - Split ELIOT departures into two fixes to feed the two airways
- Simplified merge of ISP south departures with other NY Metro departures





#### Alternative: Integrated Airspace (variation with ICC)

- Increased departure efficiency
  - Multiple departure headings
  - Additional airways
  - Piggyback altitudes at departure fixes
- Dual arrivals to EWR on 04/22
- Terminal separation rules used at all legal altitudes
- ZBW and ZDC overlie
  ICC airspace





#### **Summary of Operational Results**

- Eight "Purpose and Need" elements translated into quantifiable metrics
- Key operational metrics are highlighted in the remainder of the briefing
  - Jet route delay (airspace delay)
  - Arrival and departure delays
    - Fanned headings for departures
    - Arrival efficiencies
  - Time below 18,000 ft.
  - Route length
  - Flexibility in severe weather
  - End of day's last arrival push



#### **Jet Route Delays**

- Each number represents points causing more than 30 minutes of delay per day
- South and west departures see most benefit from en route enhancement





#### Jet Route Delays – Comparison



Overview of NY/NJ/PHL Metro Redesign November/December 2005



#### **Delay Savings with New Usage of Runways**

 EWR and JFK can use runways more efficiently under Integrated w/ ICC alternative





#### **Delay Savings with Fanned Departure Headings**

- Three departure headings from EWR 22R
  - Provided in all alternatives
    except No-Action, Ocean
  - +3 deps/hour during peaks
  - 31% decrease in departure delay (averaged over NE, SW)
- Three to six departure headings from PHL
  - Provided in all alternatives
    except No-Action, Ocean
  - 11% decrease in departure delay (2011, West configuration)





#### **Delay Savings with Arrival Improvements**

- When necessary, holding is done under terminal rules
- Integrated w/ ICC, arrival sequence is known earlier
  - No rigid LoA to be enforced
  - Provides arrival benefits to LGA and TEB where other mechanisms can not





LGA arrival routes on background of today's facilities: Current and Integrated w/ ICC



#### **Improved Access to System**

- Unconstrained demand forecasts, extreme traffic
- Let the traffic fly, then measure the time at which arrivals finally run out
- Changes only at EWR, LGA
- 1 hour improvement in integrated airspace w/ ICC





#### **Flexibility in Routing**

- Test scenario:
  - Convective weather closes J80/J60/J64 for 2 hours
  - North gate reroutes
- Expanded route choice in Integrated w/ ICC Alternative saves 12.6 minutes per departure
- Modifications, Ocean Routing, and Integrated w/o ICC have zero benefit in this case



Available reroutes in No-Action, Modifications, Ocean, Integrated w/o ICC
 Available reroutes in Integrated w/ ICC Alternative



#### Time/Distance below 18,000 ft

Contributes to:

- Expedite Arrivals and Departures
- Reduce Complexity

Improved by:

- Added departure fixes
- Shorter approach paths
- Reduced vectoring

Future No Action	18.5
Modifications	18.2
Ocean Routing	18.8
Integrated w/o ICC	18.2
Integrated w/ ICC	18.6





# Route Lengths Increase in Integrated w/ ICC Alternative

 Tradeoff of distance impacts against delay improvements during peak times

	∆ Flying Distance (nmi)	∆ Flying Time (min)
Modifications	0	-0.9
Ocean Routing	4.5	3.9
Integrated w/o ICC	-1.2	-1
Integrated w/ ICC	3.7	-1.4



Example: EWR arrival routes on background of today's facilities: Current and Integrated w/ ICC



#### **Direct Operating Costs to Customers**

	Existing Facilities	Integrated Control Complex
		3.5 min/flt
No Action	0	\$151 M/yr
Modifications to	0.24 min/flt	3.65 min/flt
Existing Airspace	\$9.5 M/yr	\$168 M/yr
	0.31 min/flt	4.57 min/flt
Integrated Airspace	\$13.7 M/yr	\$225 M/yr
	–6.72 min/flt	–6.15 min/flt
Ocean Routing	(\$307.5 M)/yr	(\$268 M)/yr

- APO cost estimates (2004 dollars), 2011 traffic
- Includes increased airport throughput due to integrated control of arrivals and departures

Scenarios simulated in TAAM for the EIS

Scenario simulated in TAAM for MTO study





#### 2011 Integrated Airspace Alternative Variation with ICC Change in Noise Exposure – NY/NJ Metropolitan Area



Overview of NY/NJ/PHL Metro Redesign November/December 2005







Overview of NY/NJ/PHL Metro Redesign November/December 2005



#### Ocean Routing Alternative Does Not Meet the Purpose of the Redesign





Ocean

Routing

Modifi-

cations

No Action

Integrated

w/o ICC

Integrated

w/ ICC

### **Summary and Conclusions**

- Operational results are promising
  - Without major changes in airport capacity (e.g., new runways), we will not see huge delay reductions or throughput increases
- Airspace improvements will provide operational improvement
  - Increasing departure headings and maximum use of available runways will result in increases of 1-3 operations per hour
- These improvements will have noise impacts
  - Several mitigation techniques are under consideration
- Ocean Routing does not meet the purpose and need of the project
- Integration of the terminal and en route airspace is *crucial* to achieving efficiencies

