

from [HotlineComplaintCenter](mailto:HotlineComplaintCenter@oig.dot.gov) <HotlineCC@oig.dot.gov>  
to ipaintmemphis@gmail.com  
cc "Harding, Scott V." <Scott.V.Harding@oig.dot.gov> hide details Jul 28 (8 days ago)  
date Wed, Jul 28, 2010 at 8:27 AM  
subject Hotline C10Z000038CC  
mailed-by oig.dot.gov

Mr. Cobb:

This email is in response to your January 21, 2010, email, reporting possible safety issues regarding the Hurricane Creek Culvert, which runs beneath the Memphis Airport Runway 9/27.

Based on our review of your complaint, we determined your concerns merited further attention. Our department in conjunction with our Office of Inspector General's Assistant Inspector General for Aviation and Special Program Audits coordinated with the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority to obtain all relevant information involving the Hurricane Creek Culvert construction in question. After reviewing the material provided by you, your website page <http://www.guycobb.com/coverup.htm> and the Airport's engineering report "The Hurricane Creek Culvert Investigation Report of Structural Analysis," dated May 19, 2010, the allegations in your complaint were not substantiated. As outline in "The Hurricane Creek Culvert Investigation Report of Structural Analysis," this engineering report concludes that the box culvert is structurally sound. Moreover, during the reconstruction, the load on the culvert was reduced by raising the runway and increasing the thickness of the ground cover by one foot. Thus, as the report notes, the Hurricane Creek Culvert meets or exceeds required load factors and does not pose a risk for aircraft using the Memphis Airport runways and taxiways.

After further review of the engineering report, we see no obvious evidence of shortcomings. The description of the processes used by the engineers is consistent with what we would expect to see in this type of structural investigation.

At this juncture, our files regarding this matter are now closed. If you have information, which contradicts these findings, please do not hesitate to let us know.

All federal agencies, including Department of Transportation (DOT), are required under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. Section 552, to disclose records requested in writing by any person. Each agency under DOT is responsible for processing FOIA requests for the records they maintain. You may make a FOIA request by writing Freedom of Information Act Officer, 1200 New Jersey Ave SE, West Bldg, 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20590, phone 202.366.8751; fax 202.366.1975. Additional information may be obtained online at <http://www.oig.dot.gov/FOIA>.

We appreciate your efforts to prevent government waste, fraud and abuse. Thank you for providing us the opportunity to look into this matter.

Sincerely,

-/s/-

Heather Albert

Director, Complaint Analysis Center

[www.oig.dot.gov/Hotline](http://www.oig.dot.gov/Hotline)