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January 18th, 2023

Mr. Peter Rutherford
Managing Director
Airport Authority
Lynden Pindling International Airport
Nassau, Bahamas

Dear Mr. Rutherford:

RE: Serious Safety Concern at Staniel Cay Airport (MYES), Staniel Cay, Exuma, Bahamas (SR2023-001)

Within the last two (2) months, the AAIA has investigated a number of occurrences that took place at the Staniel Cay Airport (MYES), Staniel Cay, Exuma, Bahamas involving general aviation and commercial operators.

As a result of our investigations into these matters, we were able to identify that the condition of the runway surface at MYES creates an unsafe environment and potential hazard to the myriad of pilots operating aircraft into and out of the Staniel Cay Airport. For example, there was evidence observed showing a number of potholes on and near the centerline marking of the runway. I have forwarded this video evidence to your attention via email correspondence for your review.

In accordance with the **Aircraft Accident Investigation Authority Act 2019 Part V Reports and Recommendations; Subpart 27 Safety Recommendations**, which allows for the issuance of safety recommendations during any stage of an investigation in the interest of safety, the AAIA makes the following safety recommendation to the Airport Authority (Family Island Airport Division):

- The AAIA recommends that the Airport Authority (Family Island Airport Division) assess the current runway condition at the Staniel Cay Airport (MYES), Exuma, Bahamas with the aim of addressing any issues related to the condition or quality of the runway surface and environment that may pose a potential hazard to operators and the flying public.

This is a very serious concern that should be addressed without delay. The AAIA trusts that the Airport Authority (Family Island Airport Division) would institute measure(s) to ensure that this potential safety hazard is mitigated against in the most effective way possible.

The AAIA requests a response from your organization within 30 days including a plan of action to address this most serious safety concern. In addressing this safety recommendation please reference **SR2023-01** in your correspondence.

Aircraft Accident Investigation Authority

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Regards,



Kendall Dorsett Jr.
Chief Investigator of Air Accidents

Cc: Hon. I. Chester Cooper – Minister MOTA&I
Hon. JoBeth Coleby-Davis – Minister MOT&H
Dr. Kenneth Romer – Director of Aviation
Mr. Alexander Ferguson – Director General CAA-B