

8/21/2023

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2023-115/6-9

2017846

To: FAA (ATM ZMP ARTCC)

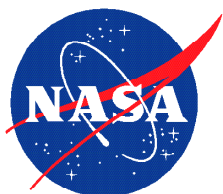
Info: FAA (AFS-260, AFS-200, AVP-1, AVP-200, Director of Air Traffic Operations, CSA),
A4A, AAAE, ALPA, APA, ASAP, ATSAP, ATSG, CAPA, IATA, IBT, ICAO, ICASS,
IFALPA, IPA, NATCA, NTSB, RAA, SWAPA

From: Becky L. Hooey, Director
NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System

Re: ZMP ARTCC Communication Difficulties

We recently received ASRS reports describing a safety concern that may involve your area of operational responsibility. We do not have sufficient details to assess either the factual accuracy or possible gravity of the report. It is our policy to relay the reported information to the appropriate authority for evaluation and any necessary follow-up. We feel you should be aware of the enclosed deidentified report.

To properly assess the usefulness of our alert message service, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to give us your feedback on the value of the information that we have provided. Please contact Dr. Becky Hooey at (408) 541-2854 or email at becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov.



Aviation Safety Reporting System
P.O. Box 189 | Moffett Field, CA | 94035-0189



ACN 2017846

DATE / TIME

Date of Occurrence 202307
Local Time Of Day 1201 to 1800

PLACE

Locale ZMP.ARTCC
State MN
Altitude - MSL 3000

ENVIRONMENT

Flight Conditions VMC

AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

ATC / Advisory - Center ZMP
Make Model Name Small Transport
Operating Under FAR Part 135

PERSON 1

Function - Flight Crew Pilot Not Flying
ASRS Report Number 2017846

EVENTS

Anomaly ATC Issue - All Types
Anomaly Deviation / Discrepancy - Procedural - Published
Material / Policy
Anomaly Ground Event / Encounter - Ground Equipment Issue
Detector - Person Flight Crew

NARRATIVE 1

Enroute to MBL we were given pilot's discretion to 3,000 ft. by Minneapolis ARTCC. At 3,000 ft. we got MBL airport in sight approximately 20 miles out. I made multiple attempts to cancel IFR with Center on frequency 120.85 and got no response. I switched to 132.9 and tried there, again no response. My last attempt was on guard, again, no response. At this time we were 5 miles from the airport at 3,000 ft. and I decided the best course of action would be to squawk 7600 and proceed visually. I relayed the message to operations and they called Minneapolis to cancel IFR for us. Once we got on the ground I called Minneapolis again to verify we had cancelled. This is not the first time we have had communication issues near the Manistee airport with Minneapolis.

There is a recurring issue with the Minneapolis ARTCC transmitter in this area. We have been told they use a backup transmitter to talk to us and if they don't use it we cannot communicate.

A discussion [is needed] with Minneapolis ARTCC by the company and/or FAA to come up with a solution for more consistent radio contact.

SYNOPSIS

Pilot reported reoccurring difficulties in communicating with ZMP ARTCC via multiple frequencies in the vicinity of MBL airport.