

Paul  
Dave  
Brian

12 May 2016

Whitefield Selectboard  
56 Littleton Road  
Whitefield, NH 03598

RECEIVED  
MAY 13 2016  
Town of Carroll

Dear Members of the Board:

**RE: National Guard Helicopters Based at Airport in Whitefield**

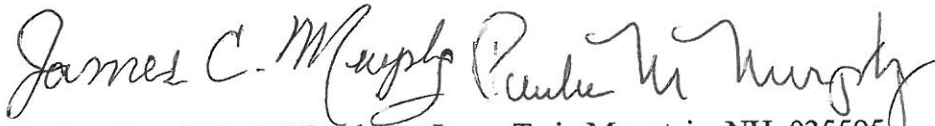
On April 11, 2016, we attended your Board's public meeting to discuss a proposal from the National Guard to construct a facility at the airport that would house 15 to 20 servicemen, 1 - 2 Blackhawk helicopters and a fuel truck. The proposal stated that flight time from their current base in Concord would be reduced, giving them more time to practice maneuvers and rescues in the White Mountains.

The Village of Twin Mountain will be on the direct flight path of the low-flying helicopters from the airport to their area of maneuvers (Mt. Lafayette). We were told, when asked, that they normally fly at only 500 feet above ground. At this elevation a Blackhawk helicopter is extremely loud, well over 100 db. Even at 2,000 feet, they are louder than the EPA recommends for sound exposure. As a former long-time member of the Hubbardston, MA Board of Health, I am very familiar with current EPA regulations on sound propagation and over-pressure. A Blackhawk flying at a distance of 1 mile away is loud enough to be considered objectionable by most people.

After having worked for both local and state governments, we feel that once there is government presence, it is impossible to keep it from growing. Just imagine the worst that could be cited at this airport in 25 or 50 years, if you allow them in now. You are in a unique position to continue the protection of this unique wilderness area that provides all who live and visit here with solitude, beauty and pristine quality of life. This is something that you have the power and authority to prevent from happening here. The Guard will still continue to fly over the White Mountains from Concord, as they do currently. We do not need them here, in the North Country. The benefits are far outweighed by the detriments in having them based in Whitefield.

We applaud and appreciate the hard work and dedication of those individuals in the military. As stated previously, they will not lose any flight hours flying from Concord; but we all stand to lose much. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,



Jim & Paula Murphy, Box 394, 55 Woodcrest Lane, Twin Mountain, NH 035595

✓ CC: Twin Mountain Selectboard