

11/23/2021

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2021-170/4-19

1848710

To: FAA (ATM PCT TRACON, ATM BWI Tower), Airport Manager, Washington
Intl/Thurgood Marshall (BWI), MD

Info: FAA (AAS-1, AAS-300, AVP-1, AVP-200, AFS-280, AFS-200, AEA-600, Director of Air
Traffic Operations ESA North, Runway Safety Team), A4A, ALPA, AOPA, APA, ASAP,
ATSAP, ATSG, CAPA, EAA, IBT, ICASS, IPA, NAFI, NATCA, NBAA, NTSB, RAA,
SWAPA

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

Re: BWI Runway 33L Lighting

We recently received an ASRS report 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 1848710

DATE / TIME

Date of Occurrence	202110
Local Time Of Day	1801 to 2400

PLACE

Locale	BWI.Airport
State	MD

AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

ATC / Advisory - Tower	BWI
Make Model Name	Commercial Fixed Wing
Operating Under FAR Part	121

PERSON 1

Function - Flight Crew	First Officer
Function - Flight Crew	Pilot Not Flying
ASRS Report Number	1848710

EVENTS

Anomaly	Ground Event / Encounter - Ground Equipment Issue
Detector - Person	Flight Crew
Result - General	None Reported / Taken

NARRATIVE 1

When on approach to Runway 33L the LED lights on the runway centerline for 33L, there is 1 set of lights that appear to be brighter than the rest and make it look like an aircraft is on the runway. It seems like the light build is between Taxiway "Y" and 10/28 runway. I am not sure if it is a "hump" in the runway, but these lights seem to be brighter than all the other centerline lights. If you fly the 33L ILS or PAPI at night you should be able to see it. Optical illusion. Have a FAA Flight Check fly a few visual approaches to this runway at night, to see if they can see the same light pattern that I see when landing on this runway.

SYNOPSIS

Air carrier First Officer reported there is a group of lights within the runway center lights at BWI airport that appear to be brighter than the others creating an optical illusion.