

2/13/2025

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2025-27/6-2

To: Airport Manager, Augusta Reg'l Airport at Bush Field (AGS), GA, FAA (AAS-1, 2196785 ATM AGS Tower)

Info: FAA (AVP-1, AVP-200, ASO-600, AAS-300, AFS-800, AFS-260, Director of Air Traffic Operations ESA South), AOPA, ASAP, ATSG, ICASS, NAFI, NTSB

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

Re: AGS ATC Operations Affected By Off-site Activity

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 2196785**DATE / TIME**

Date of Occurrence	202412
Local Time Of Day	1201 to 1800

PLACE

Locale	AGS.Airport
State	GA

AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

ATC / Advisory - Tower	AGS
Make Model Name	Helicopter

AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT Y

Make Model Name	Commercial Fixed Wing
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PERSON 1

Function - Air Traffic Control	Local
ASRS Report Number	2196785

EVENTS

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

NARRATIVE 1

Twice in the last week AGS has had to go ATC Limited or ATC Zero due to lines being cut and stolen for copper. When the lines are cut AGS loses primary radar, multiple frequencies, and shout lines. When ATC limited and VFR Tower only we have to work off a PET 2000 (Portable Emergency Transceiver) for LC (Local Control). Additionally, one of the PETs had poor range and would cut out mid transmission. Then led to unsafe handling of A/C when we had 4 HELOs and an air carrier on frequency and we could not give traffic due to transmissions not going out.

Recommendations - the telecommunication lines need to be buried and protected, and or move the Tower to the other side of the field with the lines buried and protected.

SYNOPSIS

Air Traffic Controller reported communication problems due to equipment lines being cut and stolen resulting in unsafe ATC operations.