

2/13/2025

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2025-29/6-3

2200987

To: FAA (ATM HCF TRACON)

Info: FAA (AAS-300, AVP-1, AVP-200, AJI-144, AWP-600, AFS-260, AFS-200, Director of Air Traffic Operations WSA), A4A, AAAE, ALPA, AOPA, APA, ASAP, CAPA, ATSAP, ATSG, ICAO, ICASS, IPA, NATCA, NBAA, NTSB, RAA

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

Re: HCF Communication Issues Vicinity of KOA and LNY

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 2200987**DATE / TIME**

Date of Occurrence	202501
Local Time Of Day	1801 to 2400

PLACE

Locale	HCF.TRACON
State	HI

AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

ATC / Advisory - TRACON	HCF
Make Model Name	No Aircraft

PERSON 1

Function - Air Traffic Control	Approach
ASRS Report Number	2200987

PERSON 2

ASRS Report Number	2200660
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EVENTS

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

NARRATIVE 1

This letter serves as a formal complaint regarding the continued failure of frequency 119.3. We have reported this issue for some time now with minimal resolution. The persistent malfunction of this frequency poses a significant disruption to our air traffic control operations, compromises user experience, and creates a potential safety hazard.

Frequency 119.3 is a critical communication channel for operation at the LNY airport. This airport is a non-controlled field that in its own right deserves a control tower due to its volume of operations. At LNY and in the vicinity of KOA Airport and near the island of Maui its unavailability forces us to rely on secondary and backup frequencies, which are often degraded or of lesser quality, range, and capability.

Reduced communication clarity: Interference, static, and overall bad quality of the frequency hinder effective transmission of critical information.

Operational delays: Difficulty in establishing prompt contact with aircraft causes delays in procedures and the operation.

Increased workload for controllers: Managing communication on overcrowded, low quality, and failing frequencies adds to our controller stress and fatigue, potentially increasing the risk of human error.

Safety implications: These issues could possibly result in a direct threat to the safety of aircraft, passengers, and crew.

Recommendation - The continued failure of 119.3 is unacceptable and demands immediate attention. It must be addressed, and I ask you to please:

Investigate the root cause of the frequency malfunction.

Implement necessary repairs or replacements to ensure its reliable operation.

Provide a timeline for the resolution of this issue.

Consider temporary solutions to mitigate the impact on air traffic control operations until the problem is permanently fixed.

I understand that technical issues can occur, but the persistent nature of this problem and its impact on aviation safety necessitate urgent action. My hope is for a prompt and effective resolution to this matter.

NARRATIVE 2

[Report narrative contained no additional information.]

SYNOPSIS

Air Traffic Controller reported a continued frequency issue resulting in a significant disruption of HCF ATC operations and creating a potential safety hazard.