

**From:** dougcolcl@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022 9:55 AM  
**To:** KairosHermes-CPEIS Resource; KairosHermes-CPEIS Resource  
**Cc:** Jill Caverly; Matt Bartlett; Tami Dozier; Peyton Doub; Kenneth Erwin  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] Public Input --- Kairos Hermes Test Reactor Construction Permit Request  
**Attachments:** Airport\_O\_R\_City\_Council\_7\_2009\_20200806\_0008.pdf

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Public input - Re:

<https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML22259A126>

***U.S. NRC ( United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission NUREG-2263  
Environmental Impact Statement for the Construction Permit for the Kairos  
Hermes Test Reactor  
Draft Report for Comment***

***Manuscript Completed: September 2022 -- Date Published: September 2022 .***

As this point there is a proposal to construct a small general aviation airport in close proximity to the location of the Hermes nuclear facility. The safety implications were not foreseen by those proposing an Oak Ridge airport back in 2009, see attached. During the depressed economic prospects of 2009 it was believed that a small GA airport would lead to economic benefits to industries looking to locate adjacent to an airport. To this day , 13 + years later, there are no independent assessments supporting that contention. Simply put - no compelling merits to justify an airport. For starters the 1300 acre Heritage Center industrial park is all but sold and occupied, only 151 acres in small isolated parcels, remaining. In fact quite the contrary.

Just in the last 5 years the following business entities have chose to locate and do business in Oak Ridge. And not one has tied their decision to the prospect of a general aviation airport. , Kairos, X-Energy, TVA-Hitachi-GE, Ultra Safe Nuclear Corp, General Fusion, Carbon Rivers, etc.

Some say TYS congestion suggests the need for a "reliever airport" . This is highly questionable. TYS has two runways over 9,500' in length. From 2014 through 2021 TYS had one runway completely closed for a total

reconstruction ( \$110 million ). And during that 7 years the GA traffic at TYS increased at least 33% - Cirrus. The FAA reported no traffic congestion issues. Keep in mind TYS is the 92nd largest Commercial & GA airport in the US. Spread over 2500 acres. Ample room for growth - Re: Cirrus for example. And not once has consideration been given to how convenient RKW is to west Knox County and Oak Ridge .

To be building a small General Aviation airport for use by a few dozen recreational pilots to store and fly light sport aircraft, many with FAA experimental designation, has nuclear safety & other implications that make such a project ill-advised on many levels.

You may be unaware that as recently as this past spring the runway preliminary design alignment-characteristics were changed again for at least the 6th time in the 13 years . There is just no location safe for aviation, in this narrow ridge and valley topographic province. Having a concentration of low flying LSA's passing directly above the reactor , preparing to land would be a recipe for concern.

The latest proposed plan is to construct the runway across the front of Heritage Center. Effectively constructing a wall, 50' high at the west end , for over a mile in length across the entire front of Heritage Center parallel to TN Rt 58, with tunnel access to the site. The vast majority of vehicle traffic doing business in Heritage Center would be funneled through this tunnel . This would include primary access to and from Hermes, emergency services, the Oak Ridge fire department, tourists visiting the MPNHP K-25 History Center, Energy Solutions semi-trucktrailer access to their rail facility for off site transfer of hazardous materials , etc.

Please make your voices heard that an airport under such dubious merits is an unacceptable risk to the nuclear reactors and related nuclear facilities within & in the vicinity of Heritage Center industrial park. Keep in mind it is not just Hermes at risk , the list is quite lengthy :

- \* Kairos 10 MW Thermal SMR "Hermes" -- requiring NRC permit now being addressed

- \* And Kairos plans for Atlas - SMR fuel mfg -- requiring another NRC permit -- handling HALEU

- \* X-Energy's plans to mfg TRISO-X - requiring NRC permit - handling HALEU

- \* TVA-Hitachi-GE plans for a three SMR demonstration project at the former CRBR site- requiring NRC permits

- \* As well the HFIR at ORNL

- \* And SNM (special nuclear materials) at CNS-Y12

All of these are within 9 miles are less from a proposed airport and in the shadow of often little more than sightseeing flights flown at low altitude by recreational pilots.

It would be one thing if an airport existed with established economic benefits compared to a yet to be constructed airport proposed 13 years ago under far different economic prospects and now offering little more than a recreational luxury. There is just no defense to place so many nuclear facilities at risk from an unnecessary GA airport, that will require 230 acres of rare flat land , tax exempt, creating at most 6 jobs with starting pay of \$17 per hour. Rewards vs risks are just not there. In a word a proposed GA airport in this instance in this location is "unjustified" on many levels - economically and nuclear safety risks are but two.

Public safety is a part of the environment being assessed, re: the EA. The NRC has every defensible reason ( safety, incompatibility, no clear economic justification, etc) to look at this permit request through a much broader lens and clearly oppose this proposed general aviation airport in such close proximity to Hermes and surrounding nuclear facilities. Think of it like this - "Would the NRC license a nuclear facility in the same Industrial Park this close to an existing GA airport? " , "Would you even be faced with that prospect ?"

It is likely the NRC is not aware of the fact that the proposed location of the airport does not meet the FAA "Entry Criteria" requirement .

See page 19 of the FAA Order:

[https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Order/planning\\_5090\\_3c.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Order/planning_5090_3c.pdf)

RKW is only 23 minutes travel time from Heritage Center. And only 15 air miles. It is a modern ( \$ millions in upgrades and new facilities in past 15 years ) general aviation airport with unlimited room for expansion.

<https://airnav.com/airport/RKW>

Just 1 mile off I-40 at exit 340 . Here is a link to some of the pics of Rockwood Airport - One of the most modern airports in East Tennessee.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/n2abiyzbicsutpe/AADy-UOu6h7zy7lm2FfBxvkVa?dl=0>

This Kairos SMR R & D program is all about clean energy, reducing the carbon footprint, mitigating climate change-global warming , i.e. supporting the greater public good by every measure. Kairos held a public engagement Zoom meeting on Nov 3, 2022. It is encouraging to hear first hand how focused and confident they are in making cleaner energy a reality for our nation. There is hope.



**Federal Register Notice:** 87FR59124  
**Comment Number:** 6

**Mail Envelope Properties** (1373762670.555143.1668610487154)

**Subject:** [External\_Sender] Public Input --- Kairos Hermes Test Reactor Construction  
Permit Request  
**Sent Date:** 11/16/2022 9:54:46 AM  
**Received Date:** 11/16/2022 9:55:11 AM  
**From:** dougcolcl@aol.com

**Created By:** dougcolcl@aol.com

**Recipients:**

"Jill Caverly" <Jill.Caverly@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Matt Bartlett" <Matthew.Bartlett@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Tami Dozier" <Tamsen.Dozier@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Peyton Doub" <Peyton.Doub@nrc.gov>  
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"Kenneth Erwin" <Kenneth.Erwin@nrc.gov>  
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"KairosHermes-CPEIS Resource" <KairosHermes-CPEIS.Resource@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"KairosHermes-CPEIS Resource" <KairosHermes-CPEIS.Resource@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None

**Post Office:** mail.yahoo.com

<b>Files</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>
MESSAGE	9568	11/16/2022 9:55:11 AM
Airport_O_R_City_Council_7_2009_20200806_0008.pdf		2228108

**Options**

**Priority:** Normal  
**Return Notification:** No  
**Reply Requested:** No  
**Sensitivity:** Normal  
**Expiration Date:**

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2009, Lawrence T. Young, President and CEO of the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET), submitted a letter to the Mayor requesting the City's support for CROET's efforts in bringing an airport to Oak Ridge; and

WHEREAS, the July 1, 2009 letter indicates that CROET and its affiliates, the Heritage Center, LLC, and the Horizon Center, LLC, intends to undertake a formal study of the feasibility of a general aviation airport on property which is either currently owned by CROET or slated to be transferred to CROET from the Department of Energy (DOE); and

WHEREAS, the letter further assures the City that CROET and its affiliates do not intend to request any funding from the City for this project and are only requesting the City's support of this endeavor through cooperation with zoning and permitting matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE:

That the City Council hereby supports the efforts of the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET) and its affiliates to study the feasibility of bringing a general aviation airport to Oak Ridge to be located on property which is either currently owned by CROET or slated to be transferred to CROET from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), as set forth in the attached letter dated July 1, 2009 from Lawrence T. Young, President and CEO of the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council has been assured that the support requested from the City is not financial support, as CROET in its letter has indicated it does not intend to request funding from the City.

Councilwoman Smith explained that her proposed substitute resolution focuses on support for a study of the feasibility of bringing an airport to Oak Ridge with the decision as to whether to support the airport itself to be considered after completion of the feasibility study.

The amendment was seconded by Councilwoman Garcia Garland and a brief discussion followed, with the City Manager and Mr. Lawrence T. Young responding to the Council's questions and comments.

The motion to amend by substitution was adopted by electronic vote with Council members Garcia Garland, Hayes, Mosby, and Smith voting "Aye" and Council members Hensley, Miller, and Mayor Beehan voting "Nay."

The resolution was adopted, as amended, by unanimous electronic vote with Council members Garcia Garland, Hayes, Hensley, Miller, Mosby, Smith and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye."

#### Bids and Contracts

Resolution No. 7-72-09

**A resolution awarding a bid in the estimated amount of \$133,415.00 to Stuart C. Irby Company, Johnson City, Tennessee, for the furnishing of underground electric cable.**

Councilwoman Miller moved that the resolution be adopted. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Smith and after brief deliberation, it carried by unanimous voice vote with Council members Garcia Garland, Hayes, Hensley, Miller, Mosby, Smith, and Mayor Beehan voting "Aye."

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2009, Lawrence T. Young, President and CEO of the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET), submitted a letter to the Mayor requesting the City's support for CROET's efforts in bringing an airport to Oak Ridge; and

WHEREAS, the July 1, 2009 letter indicates that CROET and its affiliates, the Heritage Center, LLC, and the Horizon Center, LLC, intends to undertake a formal study of the feasibility of a general aviation airport on property which is either currently owned by CROET or slated to be transferred to CROET from the Department of Energy (DOE); and

WHEREAS, the letter further assures the City that CROET and its affiliates do not intend to request any funding from the City for this project and are only requesting the City's support of this endeavor through cooperation with zoning and permitting matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE:

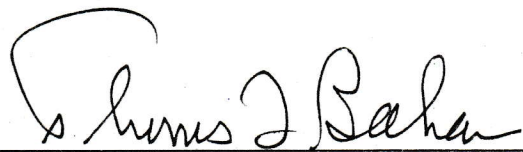
That the City Council hereby supports the efforts of the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET) and its affiliates to study the feasibility of bringing a general aviation airport to Oak Ridge to be located on property which is either currently owned by CROET or slated to be transferred to CROET from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), as set forth in the attached letter dated July 1, 2009 from Lawrence T. Young, President and CEO of the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee.

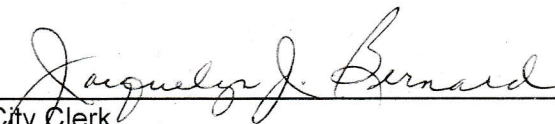
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council has been assured that the support requested from the City is not financial support, as CROET in its letter has indicated it does not intend to request funding from the City.

This the 20th day of July 2009.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk



Community Reuse Organization  
of East Tennessee

107 Lea Way

P.O. Box 2110

Oak Ridge, TN 37831-2110

phone: 865.482.9890

fax: 865.482.9891

[www.croet.com](http://www.croet.com)

RECEIVED

2009 JUL -2 AM 8:04

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

July 01, 2009

Mayor Tom Beehan  
City of Oak Ridge  
P.O. Box 1  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-0001

RE: General Aviation Airport Study

Mayor Beehan and Honorable Members of City Council:

The Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee and its affiliates, the Heritage Center, LLC and the Horizon Center, LLC, have been investigating the possibility of establishing a general aviation airport on property within the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP). We are writing to you to inform and gain your support in this endeavor.

We have, over the past few months, been investigating numerous sites within the ETTP. With the assistance of the Knoxville Metropolitan Airport Authority staff, we have identified a number of possible choices that could support a 5,000+ linear foot runway. It is now time to undertake a professional study of the ETTP area to ascertain its true feasibility. The areas under consideration are on property owned by CROET or are on property slated to be transferred from DOE to CROET.

It is our understanding that grant monies are available for such an endeavor. We intend on contracting with the Knoxville Metropolitan Airport Authority to assist us in acquiring funding for the project. We do not intend to request any funding from the City, however, we would ask that the City endorse our efforts to secure this project and that the City cooperate with zoning and permitting matters, if and when, the project is determined to be feasible.

Much work needs to be done to ascertain the viability of the project within the ETTP site and it is likely that much more work will need to be done to any potential sites in making them ready to accommodate a general aviation airport. First steps are important. As such, we would very much like to have the City of Oak Ridge's support in this very worthwhile community enhancement project.



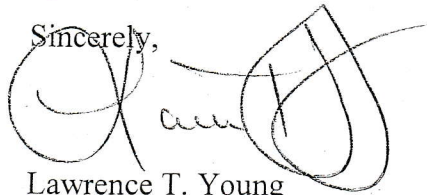
Airport Feasibility Study

July 01, 2009

Page 2 of 2

I look forward to receipt of your considered and positive reply. As always, I am available to answer any questions that arise from this request for support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lawrence T. Young', written over a circular stamp or mark.

Lawrence T. Young  
President and CEO

cc: CROET Directors

· Heritage Center Directors

Horizon Center Directors

Robert Brown, DOE

Mike Farmer, Roane County