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STATE OF NEW YORK
NEW YORK STATE POLICE
AVIATION UNIT
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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKET SECTION

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US Department of Transportation Dockets
Docket No. **FAA-98-4390-12**
400 Seventh St. SW, Rm. Plaza 401
Washington, DC 20590

Gentlemen,

The NPRM discussed in the above docket represents a positive thrust in the thinking and efforts of the **FAA**. Helicopters, with their unique operating capabilities and limitations need special constraints to operate effectively in the **IFR** airspace system and my organization with 34 pilots operating **12** helicopters and 4 airplanes in the Northeast could see considerable benefit.

Reduced landing minimums down to 100 foot ceilings and ¼ mile visibility on some **ILS** approaches, and the increased acceptance of direct routings with installed **IFR** GPS equipment both represent major steps for **IFR** helicopter operations. I highly recommend that these **2** initiatives be continued and expanded.

In conclusion, I applaud the increased efforts being made by the **FAA** to incorporate helicopter operations into **IFR** airspace system, creating a safer more effective flight environment.

Sincerely,

Captain Kenneth Rogers
Chief Pilot, NYSP Aviation Unit