



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND**

16 June 2021

Mr. Christopher P. Toale  
Director, Community Initiatives Team  
56th Fighter Wing  
14185 West Falcon Street  
Luke AFB AZ 85309-1629

Mr. Jose Macias  
Planner, Community Development  
10000 N. El Mirage Road, El Mirage, AZ 85335

Re: PZ21-05-17, Mendez Preliminary Plat (APN: 501-44-110K)

Dear Mr. Macias

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Preliminary Plat for the Mendez Project. The site sits on approximately 4 acres of vacant land located at 11104 N. El Mirage Road in El Mirage, AZ and is part of the Dysart Ranchettes Subdivision. This application request is for a subdivision of APN 501-44-110K into four single-family residential lots. The site sits inside the Luke AFB 1988 JLUS 70 and 75 Ldn "high noise or accident potential zone" as identified by A.R.S. §28-8461 and is within the "territory in the vicinity of a military airport" also defined by A.R.S. §28-8461.

Given the 4-acre parcel sits within the Luke AFB 1988 JLUS 70 and 75 Ldn "high noise or accident potential zone", Luke AFB is concerned with the mission impact, safety and noise issues of this residential development. Arizona Revised Statute prohibits new residential development inside the noise contours and our determination of what uses will and will not impact our training mission is generally consistent with the land use compatibility determination within the "high noise or accident potential zone of a military airport or ancillary military field" table found in A.R.S. §28-8481. For this reason, Luke AFB finds this development negatively impacts our flying mission; however, Luke AFB also recognizes the Attorney General's 11 July 2003 determination (attached) that the Dysart Ranchettes Subdivision has been previously approved and falls under "grandfathered" status.

While Luke AFB defers to the Attorney General's determination on the Dysart Ranchettes, this does not minimize our safety concerns for this area. This housing development remains one of the most hazardous residential areas near Luke AFB. As the location is immediately outside of Accident Potential Zone II and is directly in line with the runway extension and under the flight path there is a high potential for negative impact to both Luke AFB's flying operations and the residents.

Since the site will be located within the “territory in the vicinity of a military airport,” it will be subjected to approximately 165 over flights a day, with some as low as 1,500 feet above ground level. If this development is approved, we recommend you review the sound attenuation requirements found in A.R.S. § 28-8482. In addition, a strong notification program on the part of the applicant would be essential to inform potential residents about Luke AFB operations.

If there are any questions, please contact my Community Planner, Mr. Mark James at (623) 856-9981.

Sincerely

CHRISTOPHER P. TOALE

Attachment:

AZ Attorney General Letter, dated 11 July 2003

cc:

Colonel Luke B. Casper, Vice Commander, 56th Fighter Wing

Ms. Cindy L. Allen, GS-13, General and Environmental Law Attorney, 56th Fighter Wing