

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: September 5, 2007

RE: Runway Project at Elmira Corning Regional Airport

Contact: Ann Crook, Manager, Elmira Corning Regional Airport @ 739-5621

Tom Santulli, Chemung County Executive @ 737-2912

“Runway Project at Airport Begins”

BIG FLATS – Work has begun on the \$5.2 Million project to upgrade the main runway at the Elmira Corning Regional Airport (ELM).

The Runway 6-24 Rehabilitation Project will consist of repaving the full length of the main runway and installing runway centerline lights. The centerline lights will provide increased visibility allowing takeoffs and landings in fog conditions, very common in our area. The project was designed by McFarland-Johnson, Inc. of Binghamton and will be constructed by Villager Construction of Fairport.

The project will be funded by a combination of Federal and State grants and a small portion of local airport fees. The \$4.99 million federal funding comes from a Federal Aviation Administration grant from the Airport Improvement Program which is funded by Congress to help airports improve and expand to meet the needs of increased air travel.

The project is expected to be completed this fall if weather conditions are favorable for construction. Runway 6-24 will be closed from September 6th to September 24th, with the entire airport being closed nights from midnight to 5:30 am from September 12th to September 19th. During the period the main runway is closed aircraft will use Runway 10-28. The project will continue beyond September 24th during night time hours only as long as weather conditions are favorable. The entire project is hoped to be completed this fall but may extend into next spring.

The County has coordinated with the airlines and airport users to minimize flight disruptions; however passengers may experience some minor inconveniences. In order to accommodate the construction activity the airlines have reduced the number of seats available on some flights. Also, there may be increased numbers of flight delays or cancellations during periods of inclement weather. Ann Crook, Airport Manager, advises passengers to “book your tickets as far in advance a possible, confirm your reservation the day before flight, and arrive at the airport at least one hour in advance of your flight time.” She also thanks Southern Tier businesses and residents for patience during this project.

Tom Santulli, Chemung County Executive said, “I’m happy to see this project get underway. It will further enhance the airport’s ability to provide quality air service to our residents.”

-END-