

THE BRIEFING PROJECT INTERMISSION

Thank you. I'm Steve Edmiston. As I shared in February, *The Briefing Project* is in part a film about how the five of you, when provided a complete briefing on the impact of aircraft operations on our communities, will choose to value the human species living beneath the flight paths. Today, I am taking an intermission – to talk to you about film theory. Because I want to make sure you know what's going on.

Story structure hasn't changed. Film theory still follows Aristotle's teachings. We start with a quest. Maybe destroy a Death Star. Or save Private Ryan. Conflict is constant. Stakes are grave. The cause becomes lost.

The quest requires a protagonist – a hero. Sometimes armed only with words. So Atticus Finch argues for Tom Robinson's life. And Mr. Smith Goes to Washington. In our film, the heroes are the citizens that speak for two minutes, seeking only to protect the environment and the health of their families.

We require villains. Here, the FAA casts itself – just read the *City of Phoenix* case. And from internal Port communications, your staff seems to be auditioning for a villain syndicate role in a James Bond flick.

Here's the unique part. We don't know what role the five of you play. Hero? Sidekick? Villain? You'll get to decide. But by requiring on film that you publicly act, or fail to act, respond or fail to respond – this is where the film achieves its journalistic purpose of shining the light of public exposure on your choices.

So far, in 8 segments, you've said nothing. It might be you've received advice to say nothing. Maybe political advice. Maybe legal advice. But I can tell you this. As a matter of film theory, that's the worst possible advice you can receive.

Because we've all seen that critical moment when the subject is confronted – on a doorstep, or leaving a courthouse, or climbing into a car – and refuses to respond. Every filmmaker hopes for even one such moment. Because the truth is revealed in that silence. That's why the cameras are here.

Thank you for providing this citizen two-minutes to comment.