

**Executive Order 2015-11
Renewal of Military Reuse Zone Designation
of Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport
(Formerly Williams Air Force Base)**

WHEREAS, Williams Air Force Base closed on September 30, 1993, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law No: 101-510), and the recommendations of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission; and

WHEREAS, Williams Air Force Base was used for operational purposes and training of the active uniformed services of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the closure of Williams Air Force Base resulted in the loss of thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in economic activity, and the State of Arizona and local communities, faced with the challenge of replacing these losses, formed a unique partnership to develop a comprehensive economic reuse plan for Williams Air Force Base; and

WHEREAS, a primary component of this economic reuse initiative was the 1992 enactment of Arizona's Defense Restructuring and Military Reuse Zone Programs, a forward-thinking legislative framework for designating closed military bases in Arizona as Military Reuse Zones, which provide targeted economic incentives for aviation and aerospace businesses creating new jobs and making capital investments within these zones; and

WHEREAS, the Williams Gateway Airport Authority desired to establish a civil airport on a portion of the lands comprising Williams Air Force Base and applied to the Air Force for a public benefit transfer of such lands with improvements thereon, together with certain related personal property, under 49 U.S.C. § 47151; and

WHEREAS, the Air Force approved and accepted the Williams Gateway Airport Authority's application; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Air Force ultimately transferred to the Williams Gateway Airport Authority title to the premises and property consisting of certain lands with improvements thereon, comprising a portion of Williams Air Force Base, more particularly described in the quitclaim deed executed on the 14th of April 1998 and recorded in Maricopa County on the 30th of April 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Williams Gateway Airport was designated a Military Reuse Zone pursuant to Executive Order 96-12 in 1996, and it remained a Military Reuse Zone until July 2006; and

WHEREAS, on October 19, 2006, Executive Order 2006-15 designated Williams Gateway Airport as a Military Reuse Zone, pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1531, for a period of ten years from the date of designation; and

WHEREAS, Williams Gateway Airport became known as Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Military Reuse Zone designation at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport (formerly Williams Gateway Airport) has been an important component of the economic redevelopment strategy that attracted over 52 companies and created 6,675 direct jobs since 1996; and

WHEREAS, the renewal of the Military Reuse Zone designation will continue to facilitate state and local economic readjustment efforts by providing opportunities for commercial and industrial development, including major infrastructure improvements that will spur job creation and accelerate redevelopment growth.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arizona by the Constitution and Laws of this State, and pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1531, do hereby:

1. Renew the Military Reuse Zone designation in Executive Order 2006-15 for one term of ten years. This renewal shall apply to the Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport (formerly Williams Gateway Airport) premises and property consisting of certain lands with improvements thereon comprising a portion of Williams Air Force Base, more particularly described in the quitclaim deed executed on the 14th of April 1998 and recorded in Maricopa County on the 30th of April 1998; and
2. Set the termination date for this Military Reuse Zone renewal for October 19, 2026, which is ten years after the termination of the designation in Executive Order 2006-15.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.



GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this fifteenth day of December in the year Two Thousand and Fifteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Fortieth.

ATTEST:

Secretary of State