

1978 WL 35286 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

June 6, 1978

*1 Mr. Willard W. Watts, Jr.
Assistant Airport Director
City-County Airport Commission
215 South Piedmont Street
Florence, South Carolina 29501

Dear Mr. Watts:

In response to your request for an opinion from this Office as to whether or not the Florence City-County Airport Commission is authorized to approve a deficit operating budget, my opinion is that it is not so authorized.

Act No. 482 of 1973 [58 STAT. 836 (1973)] authorizes the Commission to borrow money 'needed to pay costs incident to the operation and maintenance of its airport facilities or . . . needed to pay the cost of any extension, addition or improvement to its airport facilities, or both.' 58 STAT. at 839. This language not only contemplates that the Commission is to operate within an operating budget which includes appropriations sufficient to meet its estimated expenses, but also provides the means by which the Commission is to insure that it not operate at a deficit, *i.e.*, the power to borrow money. See also, Act No. 1239 of 1974 [58 STAT. 2877 (1974)]; cf., [S.C. CONST. art. X, § 7\(b\)](#); [§ 4-9-140, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA](#), 1976.

With kind regards,

Karen LeCraft Henderson
Senior Assistant Attorney General

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