



U.S. Department of Transportation

Office of the Secretary of Transportation
NOV - 4 1998

Assistant Secretary

400 Seventh St., SW
Washington, DC. 20590

47392

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

98 DEC - 1 AM 11:27

DOCKET SECTION

The Honorable John W. Maitland, Jr.
State Senator
Illinois State Senate
627 State Capitol
Springfield, IL 62706

OST-98-4424-12
OST-98-4425-13

Dear Mr. Maitland:

Thank you for your letters supporting the applications of Chatauqua Airlines, Inc., for exemptions from the High Density rule at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport and New York LaGuardia Airport.

Chatauqua's proposal for LaGuardia slot exemptions was one of a number of applications that the Department recently addressed in Order 98-10-29, served on October 27. In all, five applicants were seeking a total of 28 slots and, as is explained in the order, the Department could only-grant four. Thus, we were only able to grant portions of the applications and had to deny several, including Chatauqua's. We did find that Chatauqua's proposal would provide significant transportation benefits. However, in viewing all of the applications comparatively we found that certain proposals would provide greater public benefits and should be selected over Chatauqua's as well as others. I am enclosing a copy of the order for your information.

Under existing law the Department is not authorized to grant exemptions from the High Density Rule at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. A number of airlines, including Chatauqua, have filed applications for such exemptions on the expectation that new legislation may be enacted to extend the Department's exemption authority. If the Department is given the necessary authority, I assure you that we will consider all-views in reaching decisions on the relevant applications.

I am placing a copy of your letter and my response in the correspondence section of Dockets OST-98-4424, OST-98-4425, and in the file for contacts outside the record of the case.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Hunnicutt
Assistant Secretary for Aviation
and International Affairs

Enclosure

525 NORTH EAST STREET
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61701
309/828-7733
FAX 309/828-4907

627 STATE CAPITOL
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217/782-6216
FAX 217/782-0116



JOHN W. MAITLAND, JR.
SENATOR
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER
44TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

October 16, 1998

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY
EXECUTIVE

ACTION	
is assigned to	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CONTROL NO.	
SIMS	S-10

The Honorable Rodney Slater
Secretary, U. S. Department of Transportation
Docket Section PL 40i
400 Seventh Street, S. W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Docket No. OST 98-4425

Dear Secretary Slater:

I am writing in support of a joint application filed by Central Illinois Regional Airport and Chautauqua Airlines for three slots at New York's LaGuardia Airport. The three slots would provide direct flights from Bloomington-Normal, Illinois.

Chautauqua Airlines is one of the nine US Airways Express carriers with 29 aircraft operating 211 daily flights to 25 communities in the northeast and midwest. The airline has seen continued growth since 1994 in terms of revenue passengers. The convenience of the Central Illinois Regional Airport in Bloomington is well known and I think would contribute to the increasing number of passengers using their facility.

The direct flights from Bloomington to LaGuardia would be a logical extension of their service to the northeast and midwest. With the tremendous overcrowding, especially at O'Hare, I am convinced that travelers would use Chautauqua Airlines for their trips to the East Coast.

Currently the area is underserved and it is my hope that this can be remedied and I would urge strong consideration and your approval of Central Illinois Regional Airport and Chautauqua Airlines' joint application.

Very truly yours,


JOHN W. MAITLAND, JR.
State Senator

JWM:pby

cc: Michael LaPier, A.A.E.

525 NORTH EAST STREET
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61701
309/828-7733
FAX 309/828-4907

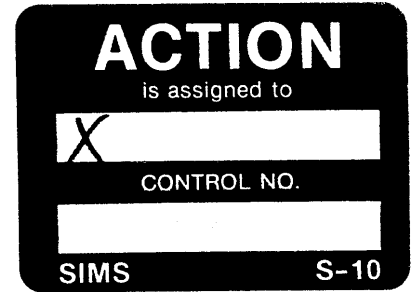
627 STATE CAPITOL
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217/782-6216
FAX 217/782-0116



COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY
EXECUTIVE

JOHN W. MAITLAND, JR.
SENATOR
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER
44TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

October 16, 1998



The Honorable Rodney Slater
Secretary, U. S. Department of Transportation
Docket Section PL 401
400 Seventh Street, S. W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Docket No. OST 98-4424

Dear Secretary Slater:

I am writing in support of a joint application filed by Central Illinois Regional Airport and Chautauqua Airlines for three slots at Washington, DC's Reagan National Airport. The three slots would provide direct flights from Bloomington-Normal, Illinois.

Chautauqua Airlines is one of the nine US Airways Express carriers with 29 aircraft operating 211 daily flights to 25 communities in the northeast and **midwest**. The airline has seen continued growth since 1994 in terms of revenue passengers. The convenience of the Central Illinois Regional Airport in Bloomington is well known and I think would contribute to the increasing number of passengers using their facility.

The direct flights from Bloomington to Reagan National would be a logical extension of their service to the northeast and **midwest**. With the tremendous overcrowding, especially at O'Hare, I am convinced that travelers would use Chautauqua Airlines for their trips to the East Coast.

Currently the area is underserved and it is my hope that this can be remedied and I would urge strong consideration and your approval of Central Illinois Regional Airport and Chautauqua Airlines' joint application.

Very truly yours,


JOHN W. MAITLAND, JR.
State Senator

JWM:pby

cc: Michael LaPier, A.A.E.