

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Issued by the Department of Transportation
on the 11th day of January, 1991

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Ninety-day Notice of	:	
	:	
MESABA AVIATION, INC.	:	Dockets 43811
	:	43812
to suspend service at Devils Lake	:	and 43881
and Jamestown, North Dakota and	:	
Brookings, Huron and Mitchell,	:	
South Dakota, under section 419	:	
of the Federal Aviation Act of	:	
1958, as amended	:	
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ORDER EXTENDING SERVICE OBLIGATION

On September 21, 1989, Mesaba Aviation, Inc., filed a 90-day notice of its intention to suspend scheduled air service at Devils Lake and Jamestown, North Dakota, and Brookings, Huron and Mitchell, South Dakota. Since the suspension of service by Mesaba would deprive the communities of essential air service, the Department instituted a service replacement case by Order 89-12-34 and prohibited Mesaba from suspending its service at the five communities for an initial 30-day period. The order stated that in accordance with section 419 of the Act, we would extend Mesaba's service obligation at the communities for successive 30-day periods, as necessary, until replacement service actually begins. The most recent extension, through January 13, 1991, was issued by Order 90-12-26.

Order 89-12-34 requested proposals from carriers interested in providing replacement essential air service, with subsidy if necessary, at the communities. Proposals to provide service at the points were received from Bemidji Airlines, GP Express Airlines, Great Lakes Aviation and Mesaba Aviation. 1/ The Department has recently issued Order 90-11-44 selecting Great Lakes Aviation to provide subsidized replacement service at Devils Lake and Jamestown and GP Express to provide subsidized replacement service at Brookings, Huron and Mitchell. Order 90-11-44 allows Mesaba to terminate its service once Great Lakes

1/ By letter dated June 28, 1990, Mesaba withdrew its service proposals.

Aviation and/or GP Express starts serving the points. Great Lakes Aviation inaugurated its full service pattern on January 8 at Devils Lake and Jamestown, North Dakota, and we will therefore not renew Mesaba's service obligation at those points. At the South Dakota points of Brookings, Huron and Mitchell, GP Express has indicated its intention to inaugurate service on January 21, 1991. Since it is not likely that GP Express will inaugurate service at Brookings, Huron and Mitchell, South Dakota, before the end of the current hold-in period, January 13, in accordance with section 419(b)(5) of the Act we must extend Mesaba's service obligation at those communities as discussed in ordering paragraph one below for an additional 30-day period, through February 12, 1991. 2/

This order is issued under authority assigned in 14 CFR Part 385.

ACCORDINGLY,

1. The Department requires Mesaba Aviation, Inc., to maintain essential air service at Brookings, Huron and Mitchell, South Dakota, as set forth in Order 84-3-85, for an additional 30-day period, through February 12, 1991, or until GP Express Airlines inaugurates service pursuant to Order 90-11-44, whichever occurs first;
2. The Department directs Mesaba Aviation, Inc., to retain all books, records and other source and summary documentation, including copies of interline flight coupons, to support claims for payment for the service the carrier is being required to provide and to preserve and maintain such documentation in a manner that readily permits the audit and examination thereof by representatives of the Department; and
3. The Department will serve a copy of this order on the Mayors and airport managers of Devils Lake and Jamestown, North Dakota, and Brookings, Huron and Mitchell, South Dakota, and the respective State Departments of Transportation and Mesaba Aviation, Inc.

By:

JOHN V. COLEMAN
Director
Office of Aviation Analysis

(SEAL)

2/ In accordance with section 419 of the Act, we will extend Mesaba's service obligation at these points for successive 30-day periods until replacement service actually begins.