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OST-02-12417-8



**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

Assistant Secretary

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

June 25, 2002

The Honorable David Luechtefeld
Illinois Senator
Springfield, IL 62706

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
SECRET
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Dear Mr. Luechtefeld:

Thank you for your letter of June 10 to Secretary Mineta regarding the application of Multi-Aero, Inc. d/b/a Air Choice One to conduct scheduled passenger operations as a commuter air carrier. The Secretary has asked me to reply to you directly.

On May 30, we received Multi-Aero's application and assigned it docket number OST-02-12417. In order to approve an application for commuter authority, the Department must determine that the applicant is "fit, willing, and able" to conduct such operations. This requires an in-depth review of the backgrounds of the carrier's owners and managers, as well as of its operating plans and financial condition.

Because this application is currently being reviewed by my staff, it would be inappropriate for me to comment on the merits of the application at this time. I wish to assure you, however, that we will assist the applicant in its efforts to obtain the requested authority.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. As is our normal practice in such matters, I have placed your letter and my response in Docket OST-02-12417 as a contact outside the record of the proceeding.

If I can provide further information or assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Read C. Van de Water
Assistant Secretary for Aviation
and International Affairs

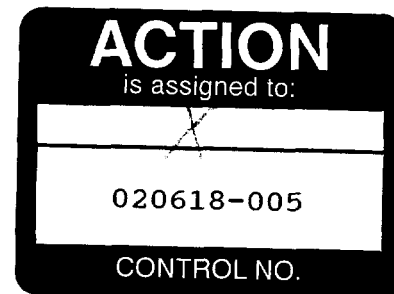
DISTRICT OFFICES:
700 N. FRONT
P. O. BOX 517
OKAWVILLE, IL 62271
PHONE: 618/243-9014
FAX: 618/243-5376
508 N. HICKORY
P.O. BOX 1036
DUQUOIN, IL 62832
PHONE: 618/542-3363
FAX: 618/542-2947



DISTRICT OFFICES:
300 E. MAIN
CARBONDALE, IL 62901
PHONE: 618/529-3866
FAX: 618/529-2788

SENATOR DAVID LUECHTEFELD

SPRINGFIELD, OFFICE:
M122 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706
PHONE: 217/782-8137



June 10, 2002

Honorable Norman Mineta
Secretary of Transportation
400 7th Street SW
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Docket Number OST-02-12417

Dear Mr. Mineta:

Please accept this letter as a sign of my complete support for Multi-Aero, Inc.'s effort to gain Commuter Carrier status with the Department of Transportation. MidAmerica St. Louis Airport was designed and built to meet the growing demand for commercial air service in fast-growing Southern Illinois. Our studies show that one of the many destinations demanded is Chicago, Illinois.

Multi-Aero is currently a tenant at MidAmerica and is well positioned to begin serving the needs of the traveling public in Southern Illinois immediately. Our experience with Multi-Aero has been exceptional. I'm confident Multi-Aero's new service offering and the many benefits it will provide both the public and private sectors will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to call should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Luechtefeld".

David Luechtefeld
State Senator - 58th District

DL/dj

cc: FAA-FSDO-62
Thomas Russell
10801 Pear Tree Lane
Suite 200
St. Ann, MO 63024