



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

Issued by the Department of Transportation
on the 20th day of December, 2002

Essential air service at

QUINCY, ILLINOIS/HANNIBAL, MISSOURI

under 49 U.S.C. 41731 *et seq.*

Served: December 26, 2002

Docket OST-2002-13934

ORDER ALLOWING SUSPENSION OF SERVICE

Background

On November 22, 2002, Air Wisconsin Airlines Corp., d/b/a United Express, filed a notice of intent to suspend its scheduled service at Quincy, Illinois/Hannibal, Missouri, as of January 7, 2003. Air Wisconsin currently operates two daily round trips to Chicago with Canadair Regional Jets via Springfield, Illinois.¹

Quincy/Hannibal also receives scheduled service from Corporate Airlines, Inc., d/b/a American Connection, which operates three nonstop round trips each weekday and four each weekend to St. Louis with 19-seat Jetstream 31 aircraft.

Essential Air Service Determination

Quincy/Hannibal's essential air service determination, as established by Order 80-2-124, February 25, 1980, required at least two daily round trips to Chicago (with no more than one intermediate stop) and St. Louis (nonstop) providing a total of 67 inbound and outbound seats.

Decision

We will allow Air Wisconsin to suspend its service at Quincy/Hannibal as of January 7, in keeping with an understanding among the carrier, the community, and the Department. By Order 2000-9-22, September 21, 2000, we granted Air Wisconsin's request for exemptions from the 90-day notice and hold-in requirements contained in 49 U.S.C. 41734 in the event that it decided to discontinue service at Quincy/Hannibal any time after December 31, 2002. Instead, Air Wisconsin's service at the community beyond that date would be subject to a notice period of just 45 days, with no hold-in obligation whatsoever. The Mayor of Quincy was amenable to Air Wisconsin's exemption request at the time, and does not object to Air Wisconsin's notice now.

¹ See the Appendix for a map.

Before Air Wisconsin suspends service, however, we expect it to contact all passengers who hold reservations for flights that will be suspended, to inform them of the suspension and the availability of other service at the community, and to assist them in arranging alternate transportation.

This order is issued under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.56a(f).

ACCORDINGLY,

1. We allow Air Wisconsin Airlines Corp., d/b/a United Express, to suspend service at Quincy, Illinois/Hannibal, Missouri, as of January 7, 2003;
2. This docket will remain open until further order of the Department; and
3. We will serve copies of this order on the mayors and airport manager of Quincy, Illinois/Hannibal, Missouri; Air Wisconsin Airlines Corp., d/b/a United Express; and Corporate Airlines, Inc., d/b/a American Connection.

By:

READ C. VAN DE WATER
Assistant Secretary for Aviation
and International Affairs

(SEAL)

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QUINCY/HANNIBAL AND THE SURROUNDING REGION

