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

2002/2003 Hong Kong Fifth-Freedom All-Cargo Frequency Proceeding

Docket OST-2002-14049

Served: December 23, 2002

EXTENSION OF PROCEDURAL DATES

By Order 2002-12-11, the Department instituted the *2002/2003 Hong Kong Fifth-Freedom All-Cargo Frequency Proceeding*, Docket OST-2002-14049, and established a procedural schedule for the proceeding. Under the established procedural schedule Direct Exhibits are due January 7, 2003; Rebuttal Exhibits, January 24, 2003; and Briefs, February 7, 2003.

By Joint Motion, filed December 18, 2002, six of the seven applicants to the proceeding request (and state expressly that the seventh applicant does not oppose) the amendment of the procedural timetable as follows: Direct Exhibits, January 28, 2003; Rebuttal Exhibits, February 14, 2003; and Briefs, February 28, 2003.¹ The Joint Movants state that the brief extension is necessary to enable them to prepare their exhibits and to develop an adequate evidentiary record, especially given the holiday season, and that the short extension should not affect the Department's ability to make a timely decision awarding the frequencies.

We will grant the motion. In the circumstances presented, we find that the Joint Movants have presented adequate justification for their request and that no applicant's interests will be prejudiced by a grant.²

Accordingly, Direct Exhibits in the above-captioned proceeding shall be due January 28, 2003; Rebuttal Exhibits, February 14, 2003; and Briefs, February 28, 2003.

¹ The Joint Motion was signed by counsel for Polar Air Cargo, Inc., Federal Express Corporation, Evergreen International Airlines, Inc., Northwest Airlines, Inc., Atlas Air, Inc., and Kalitta Air, Inc. The Joint Applicants state that they are authorized to state that UPS does not oppose the motion.

² Given that all the applicants in this proceeding have already registered support for, or non-opposition to, the Joint Motion, we are acting on the Joint Motion without awaiting completion of the answer period.

We will serve this Notice on all parties to this proceeding by email or facsimile and will authorize the parties to serve their responses by facsimile or email.

By:

SUSAN MCDERMOTT
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aviation
and International Affairs

(SEAL)

Dated: December 23, 2002

*An electronic version of this notice is available on the World Wide Web at
http://dms.dot.gov/reports/reports_aviation.asp*