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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

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BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Certification of)
)
Atlantic Coast Airlines)
)
Pursuant to)
49 U.S.C. 41717 (b))
(Springfield, MO - Chicago O'Hare))

Docket No. OST-00-7179

SUBMISSION OF SPRINGFIELD - BRANSON REGIONAL AIRPORT
RE: CERTIFICATION OF ATLANTIC COAST AIRLINES

Communications with respect to this document should be sent to:

Mr. Robert Hancik, A.A.E.
Director of Aviation
Springfield - Branson Regional Airport
Route 6, Box 384-15
Springfield, MO 65803
(417) 869-0300

Mr. Robert E. Dunn
SH&E, Inc.
One Main Street
Cambridge, MA 02142
(On behalf of Springfield-Branson)
(617) 225-2800

August 4, 2000

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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WASHINGTON, D.C.

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SUBMISSION OF SPRINGFIELD - BRANSON REGIONAL AIRPORT
RE: CERTIFICATION OF ATLANTIC COAST AIRLINES

Pursuant to Order 2000-4-14, Atlantic Coast Airlines has submitted the appropriate Certification so that it might be able to provide one additional Springfield – Chicago O'Hare roundtrip effective September 6, 2000 with CRJ aircraft.

Springfield-Branson (hereafter Springfield) understands that grant of ACA's request should be automatic and does not need community comment. Never the less, Springfield desires to file this letter in support of ACA's additional roundtrip.

Springfield-Branson Submission

ACA inaugurated service on September 1, 1998 at Springfield-Branson Regional Airport with three (3) daily roundtrips to/from Chicago's O'Hare airport. Four (4) roundtrips were provided during the fourth quarter 1998 and then service was returned to the three (3) roundtrip level where it has remained.

Since its inception, ACA has provided much needed service to residents of Southwest Missouri who are served through the Springfield-Branson Regional Airport. Chicago's O'Hare airport is United's largest hub, providing a multitude of connecting opportunities throughout the entire day. ACA is an Express affiliate of United and enjoys the ability to provide online connections for Springfield passengers. The Springfield -O'Hare schedule enhancement by means of a fourth roundtrip will significantly add to the connecting opportunities both in terms of available cities and number of possibilities. Passengers in the local market also will enjoy the added convenience of more schedule choices in order to better utilize their time..

During 1999, ACA's passengers enplaned per departure at Springfield ranged from a low of 21 in February to a high of 41 in December. For the months of May through December, ACA's load factor was 66% (65.8%) or higher for all months except November when it was 62%. In December, it reached 82%!

In the latter part of 1998, ACA inaugurated O'Hare nonstop service in three markets - Springfield, MO and Charleston, WV on September 1 and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton on October 1. Springfield

generates substantially more traffic for ACA than either of the other cities. The wisdom of granting the initial added O'Hare slots to regional airlines such as ACA has been a resounding success, at least from Springfield's viewpoint. Springfield is appreciative that ACA recognizes its traffic needs and ability to produce profitable loads.

For the preceding reasons, Springfield welcomes the opportunity to support ACA's request for an additional roundtrip in the Springfield-Chicago O'Hare market.

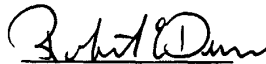
Respectfully Submitted,


Robert E. Dunn
SH&E, Inc.

On behalf of:
Robert Hancik, Director
Springfield - Branson Regional Airport

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this 4th day of August, 2000 served this Submission by first class mail on all persons named on the Service List attached to Atlantic Coast's Certification in this Docket.


Robert E. Dunn