

179754

TOM UDALL

3D DISTRICT, NEW MEXICO

FLOOR WHIP

502 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6190

www.house.gov/tomudall

811 ST. MICHAELS DRIVE
SUITE 104
SANTA FE, NM 87505
(505) 984-8950



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3103

July 11, 2002

COMMITTEES:
SMALL BUSINESS
RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL ENTERPRISES,
AGRICULTURE, AND TECHNOLOGY

VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
FORESTS AND FOREST HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL PARKS, RECREATION AND
PUBLIC LANDS

Docket
Operations and Media Management
SVC-124
Room PL-401
Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street SW
Washington, DC 20590

To Whom It May Concern:

OST-98-4706-30

02 JUL 17 AM 11:03
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Department of Transportation has issued Docket OST-1998-4704, an Order to Show Cause tentatively terminating the subsidy eligibility of Gallup, New Mexico, under the Essential Air Service Program (EAS). The Department issued this order because they believe the subsidy per passenger exceeds the \$200 per passenger statutory ceiling and the community is less than 210 highway miles from the medium hub airport at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Gallup Mayor John Pena, on behalf of the City Council of the City of Gallup, has recently submitted formal objections to the order for several reasons and respectfully request that you give strong consideration to their objections. In the meantime, as is stated in the order, I strongly urge you to maintain the subsidy and require Mesa to continue its Gallup service until you have issued a final order dealing with the objections. The EAS subsidy and Mesa Airline's service is a vital component to the economic development and well-being of Gallup and the surrounding communities. I cannot stress enough how devastating this loss of service would be to the City of Gallup.

With that and the formal objections filed by the City of Gallup in mind, I urge you to reconsider terminating their EAS subsidy, and at the very least continue this critical service to this community until their formal objections have been thoroughly considered. Thank you for your consideration of my request. I look forward to receiving your prompt reply and working with you on this and other issues in the future.

Sincerely

Tom Udall
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Norman Mineta, Secretary, Department of Transportation
Mr. Dennis DeVaney, Chief of EAS and Domestic Analysis

BRANCH OFFICES:

321 NORTH CONNELLY STREET
CLOVIS, NM 88101
P.O. Box 868
88102-0868
(505) 763-7616

800 MUNICIPAL DRIVE
FARMINGTON, NM 87401
(505) 324-1005

110 WEST AZTEC
GALLUP, NM 87301
(505) 863-0582

1700 NORTH GRAND AVENUE
LAS VEGAS, NM 87701
P.O. Box 160
(505) 454-4080

3900 SOUTHERN BOULEVARD, SE
ROOM 105-A
RIO RANCHO, NM 87124
(505) 994-0499