

187788

ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF

■ KING COVE ■ SAND POINT ■ AKUTAN ■ COLD BAY ■ FALSE PASS ■ NELSON LAGOON

September 3, 2002

Read C. Van De Water
Asst. Secretary for Aviation & International Affairs
EAS & Domestic Analysis Div. X-53
Office of Aviation Analysis, Rm. 6401
Department of Transportation
460 7th Street, SD.W.
Washington, DC 20590

RECEIVED
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
02 SEP 13 AM 11:21

Ref: EAS, Adak, AK
Docket OST-2000-8556

Dear Ms. Van De Water,

The Aleutians East Borough commented on this docket in the past when it included Cold Bay, AK as a stop on the way Adak and to support the City of Adak even though it is outside of the Borough's boundaries. Stopping in Cold Bay with large jet aircraft was and is extremely important to the Borough. The EAS level for Cold Bay is eight flights a week during the peak period and seven flights a week off peak with large jet aircraft. This level of service has not been met since the demise of Reeve Aleutian nearly two years ago. (The same can be said of just about any Aleutian community.) It is the Borough's desire to re establish some of that service to Cold Bay without filing for EAS. The Borough hoped the EAS for Adak would be the first step in restoring non-subsidized service to Cold Bay.

In reviewing each of the proposals, it is clear that Alaska Airlines is the only responsive airline. Alaska Airlines is willing and able to provide the aircraft in the appropriate configuration to meet the passenger and cargo needs of Adak. Unfortunately, Alaska Airlines is proposing to have an intermediate stop in Dillingham and not Cold Bay for the first year's operation. Alaska Airlines does provide for the possibility of a stop in Cold Bay during the second year of operation along with the possibility of stopping in King Salmon. While this is not the Borough's preferred option, it does allow the Borough to implement its air system analysis project funded by your agency. The Borough anticipates that the air system analysis will be completed by the end of Alaska Airline's first year of EAS to Adak. The Borough should also have a good idea of what components are necessary on the ground to augment the usability of Cold Bay utilizing FAA planning funds.

To summarize the Borough's points:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CLERK/PLANNER
P.O. BOX 349
SAND POINT, AK 99661
(907) 383-2699
(907) 383-3496 FAX
e-mail: AEBCLERK@aol.com | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR
3380 C STREET, SUITE 205
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503-3952
(907) 274-7555
(907) 276-7569 FAX
e-mail: aebanc@gci.net | <input type="checkbox"/> FINANCE DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 49
KING COVE, AK 99612
(907) 497-2588
(907) 497-2386 FAX
e-mail: aebfinance@aol.com | <input type="checkbox"/> RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
211 4TH STREET, SUITE 314
JUNEAU, AK 99801
(907) 586-6655
(907) 586-6644 FAX
e-mail: gmerril@ptialaska.net
e-mail: beth@ptialaska.net |
|--|---|---|--|

1. Alaska Airlines is the only responsive airline responding to the docket and should receive the EAS for Adak.
2. Cold Bay should have a higher level of service than it now receives under EAS. The Borough, rather than filing for EAS at this time, will complete an air system analysis project in approximately a year. This plan will analyze how aircraft operate throughout the Aleutians Island. The analysis should provide some insights to improve air service on system wide basis as opposed to individual sites.
3. The Borough will undertake an aviation system plan, in part, to establish the necessary ground components to implement the finding of the air system analysis within eighteen months.

Sincerely,



Robert S. Juettner
Administrator

Cc: City of Adak