

**BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

_____)	
Notice of)	
)	
MESABA AVIATION, INC.)	
d/b/a MESABA AIRLINES)	Docket OST-02-
)	
of intent to terminate service at Lafayette,)	
Indiana pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 41734)	
and 14 C.F.R. § 323)	
_____)	

Dated: September 18, 2002

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF SERVICE AT
LAFAYETTE, INDIANA**

Mesaba Aviation, Inc. d/b/a Mesaba Airlines (“Mesaba”) hereby submits notice, pursuant to 49 U.S.C § 41734 and 14 C.F.R. § 323.3, of its intent to terminate service to Lafayette, Indiana, effective December 18, 2002. Mesaba provides this service as Northwest AirlinK. In support of this Notice, Mesaba states the following:

1. Mesaba is a certificated air carrier, whose corporate office is located at:

7501 26th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450
(612) 726-5151.

2. Communications with respect to this Notice should be directed to:

Robert E. Weil
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Mesaba Airlines
7501 26th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450
(612) 726-5151
FAX: (612) 726-5168

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MESABA AIRLINES

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3. No other carrier is currently serving Lafayette, Indiana from a large or medium hub. The Department, however, cannot require continuation of service to Lafayette beyond the 90-day termination notice period because Lafayette is located 61 highway miles from a medium hub airport: Indianapolis International Airport.

4. The routing and schedule of the service that Mesaba is terminating on December 18, 2002 is as follows:

<u>From</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
DTW	1604	LAF	1631	Daily nonstop
DTW	1925	LAF	1951	Daily nonstop except Sat
LAF	0640	DTW	0910	Daily nonstop
LAF	1735	DTW	1955	Daily nonstop except Sat

5. Mesaba operates these flights with Saab SF340 aircraft (30 - 34 passenger seats).

6. Mesaba intends to terminate Lafayette service on December 18, 2002.

7. In 1983, the Department determined that the level of essential air service for Lafayette, Indiana is two daily nonstop roundtrips to/from Chicago providing a minimum of 62 seats in each direction. Order 83-6-3 (June 1, 1983). In 1999, however, the Department determined that it could not subsidize any carrier serving Lafayette because this community is 61 highway miles from Indianapolis International Airport, a medium hub. Order 99-6-21 (June 25, 1999). Because the Department is unable to subsidize service to/from Lafayette, it cannot require any carrier to continue serving the community beyond the 90-day termination notice period. Id. The Department, nevertheless, continues to require notice of service termination, and Mesaba is complying with this notice requirement.

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8. The effective date of this Notice is September 18, 2002. Objections to this Notice are due within 20 days of this Notice.

9. As required by 14 C.F.R. § 323.7(a), this Notice is being served upon all persons listed on the attached service list.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Robert E. Weil /s/

Robert E. Weil
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
MESABA AIRLINES
7501 26TH Avenue South
Minneapolis, MS 55450
(612) 726-5151

Dated: September 18, 2002