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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

2003 JUL -2 P 3:31

June 20, 2003

Docket Operation & Media Management Division
400 7th Street SW
M-30, Room PL-401
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Docket No.: OST1997-2784 -46

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you to express my strong displeasure upon learning that Colgan Air will no longer receive Government subsidies for some of its New England passenger routes. I am particularly concerned with the route from Rutland, Vermont and Boston.

As one of the largest cities in Vermont, Rutland has always been a vital and prosperous economic community. It remains the central rail hub in the state and supports economic relationships to all major New England cities. Air service is vital to this community and its ability to remain a vibrant contributor to the New England economy. Additionally, many residents rely on air travel, especially to Boston, for business meetings, educational forums, medical services and general tourism trips. The termination of these necessary subsidies would have disastrous implications for this community and the state a whole.

For these reasons, I would strongly urge you to reinstate the subsidies necessary to allow Colgan Air to continue its service from Rutland to Boston.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charles D. Smith