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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

Aviation Deputate
PO Box 3441

July 14, 2004

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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

Dennis DeVany, Chief
Essential Air Service Division, X-53
Room 6401
Office of Aviation Analysis
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. DeVany:

I am writing in strong support of the recommendation of Clearfield-Jefferson Counties Regional Airport Authority regarding their participation in the Essential Air Service Program as shown as option 2 in the June 22, 2004 Mesa Air Group, Inc proposal. Their proposal would help maintain critical air service at this important north central Pennsylvania airport.

Pennsylvania has long understood that airports are more than just a convenient mode of transportation, that the airports in Pennsylvania are key contributors to the growth and economic prosperity of the entire state. The Commonwealth and the local region recognize the importance of this airport to the aviation system. Our support has included nearly \$2 million in state support for airport improvement projects in the last ten years. These projects also received nearly \$1 million in financial support from the local area.

The airport is working diligently to increase its enplanements and to market the facility. The Commonwealth partners with all of its airports doing what it can to help promote the use of aviation. We attempt to take advantage of every tool that is available in our efforts to make primary airports self-sufficient. The Essential Air Service Program was designed for airports such as the DuBois-Jefferson County Airport, and to assist them in this effort. We feel that the airport and the Commonwealth are doing their part and are seeking support in this effort.

I encourage you to concur with the recommendations presented by the Clearfield-Jefferson Counties Regional Airport Authority. Thank you for your consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,

Sharon Daboin
Deputy Secretary for Aviation,
Rail Freight and Ports

Cc: Robert W. Shaffer, CJCRAA

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Bc: Sharon Daboin
Rick W. Harner
Richard Harding
David Parker
Airport File
Correspondence File

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