



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Issued by the Department of Transportation
on the 8th of April, 2005

Essential Air Service at

VISALIA, CALIFORNIA

DOCKET OST-2004-19916

under 49 U.S.C. 41731 *et seq.*

ORDER EXTENDING SERVICE OBLIGATION

Summary

By this order, the Department of Transportation extends the service obligation of SkyWest Airlines, Inc. (SkyWest), at Visalia, California, for an additional 30 days, through May 16, 2005.¹

Background

On December 15, 2004, SkyWest filed a 90-day notice of its intent to suspend its unsubsidized service at Visalia, effective March 15, 2005. By Order 2004-12-23, December 30, 2004, the Department prohibited SkyWest from suspending service and requested proposals, with subsidy if necessary, from carriers interested in providing replacement service. As required by 49 U.S.C. 41734, we have extended SkyWest's service obligation for additional 30-day periods, the latest through April 14, 2005, by Order 2005-3-11.

Although we have received proposals, this case will not be completed by end of the current hold-in period. Therefore, in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 41734(c), we will extend SkyWest's service obligation at Visalia for an additional 30 days, or until suitable replacement service actually begins, whichever occurs first.

This order is issued under authority assigned in 14 CFR 385.12(k)(5).

ACCORDINGLY,

1. We require SkyWest Airlines, Inc., to maintain essential air service at Visalia, California, consisting of two daily Visalia-Fresno-Los Angeles round trips for an additional 30-day period

¹ Since May 14th is a Saturday, this hold-in period will end on Monday, May 16th. (See 14 CFR 302.08.)

through May 16, 2005, or until suitable replacement service actually begins, whichever occurs first;²

2. We direct SkyWest to retain all books, records, and other source and summary documentation to support subsidy claims for payment, and to preserve and maintain such documentation in a manner that readily permits its audit and examination by representatives of the Department. Such documentation shall be retained for seven years or until the Department indicates that the records may be destroyed, whichever comes first. Copies of flight logs for aircraft sold or disposed of must be retained. The carrier may forfeit its compensation for any claim that is not supported under the terms of this order;

3. Docket OST-2004-19916, will remain open until further order of the Department; and

4. We will serve a copy of this order on the Mayor and Airport Manager of Visalia, the California Department of Transportation and SkyWest Airlines.

Persons entitled to petition the Department for review of this order under the Department's Regulations, 14 CFR 385.50, must file such petitions within ten (10) days after the date of service of this order.

This order will be effective immediately, and the filing of a petition for review shall not preclude its effectiveness.

By:

RANDALL D. BENNETT
Director
Office of Aviation Analysis

(SEAL)

*An electronic version of this document is available on the World Wide Web at
<http://dms.dot.gov>*

² In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 41734(c), we will extend SkyWest's service obligation for successive 30-day periods, as necessary, until suitable replacement service actually begins.