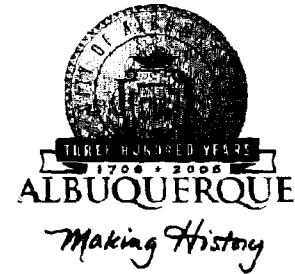


# CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

440007



January 9, 2007

**VIA FACSIMILE (202-366-7638)**

Mr. Dennis J. DeVany, Chief  
 Essential Air Service Division, X-53, Room 6401  
 Office of Aviation Analysis  
 United States Department of Transportation  
 400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
 Washington, D.C. 20590

OST-1996-1902-24  
 OST-1996-1903-42

Dear Mr. DeVany:

As you are aware, the Essential Air Service carrier selection for Clovis and Silver City New Mexico is rapidly approaching. We are pleased that program funding and eligibility criteria are sufficient to maintain current service levels to these rural locations. It seems apparent, however, that ongoing congressional efforts to reduce funding and downsize the EAS program will eventually have a significant impact here.

P.O. Box 1293

Maintaining safe, affordable and convenient links to the national air transportation system is important to our commerce, culture and quality of life. We believe consideration should be given to EAS alternatives with the potential to reduce or eliminate our dependence on federal subsidies, enhance commerce and increase the variety and scope of service available.

Albuquerque

New Mexico 87103

Some EAS communities have recently eliminated the need for subsidies altogether. The attached newspaper articles describe how Pacific Wings Airlines successfully introduced and used efficient new aircraft to scale capacity to demand in smaller Hawaii markets; steadily reducing dependence on federal funding over the past five years.

www.cabq.gov

It appears that Pacific Wings has the potential to serve the public interest, convenience and necessity to promote economical and sustainable intrastate air service in New Mexico, and we support the airline in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Fred Mondragon  
 Director  
 Economic Development Department

FM/ms