

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

Application of	:	
	:	
DELTA AIR LINES, INC.	:	OST-2007-27019
	:	
for a certificate of public conven-	:	
ience and necessity under 49 USC	:	
41102 and frequency allocation	:	
(U.S.-China)	:	

ANSWER OF AMERICAN AIRLINES, INC.

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February 9, 2007

**BEFORE THE
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ANSWER OF AMERICAN AIRLINES, INC.

American Airlines, Inc. hereby answers in opposition to the application submitted by Delta Air Lines, Inc. on January 19, 2007 seeking U.S.-China authority that does not become effective until March 25, 2008. The Department should either dismiss Delta's application as premature, or hold Delta's application in abeyance until the Department establishes a 2008 U.S.-China proceeding and invites competing applications.

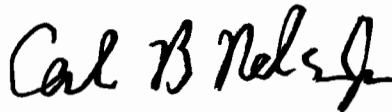
When American applied on June 30, 1999 for U.S.-China authority that would not become effective until April 1, 2001, the Department stated that competing applications would not be required until the Department determined "formally to call for applications from any interested parties for the April 1, 2001 U.S.-China opportunities" (Notice of Action Taken, OST-1999-5871, July 13, 1999, copy attached).

The Department stated that "[w]e will consider American's application only in conjunction with those applications which we receive at that subsequent time," and therefore "any carrier interested in filing an application for the new U.S.-China authority need not file a competing application by the date for answers to American's application."

The Department should reach the same conclusion here. American intends to seek additional U.S.-China authority as further opportunities become available, either under the present U.S.-China Air Transport Agreement or as a result of additional negotiations.

Consistent with the Department's decision regarding American's U.S.-China application in 1999, Delta's premature filing should not be considered until the Department establishes a 2008 proceeding and invites competing applications.

Respectfully submitted,



CARL B. NELSON, JR.
Associate General Counsel
American Airlines, Inc.

February 9, 2007



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

Issued by the Department of Transportation on July 13, 1999

NOTICE OF ACTION TAKEN -- DOCKET OST 99-5871

This serves as notice to the public of the action described below, taken by the Department official indicated (no additional confirming order will be issued in this matter).

Joint Motion of Federal Express Corporation and United Air Lines, Inc., filed 7/9/99, requesting:

That the Department suspend the due date for filing answers and competing applications to the application of American Airlines, Inc., in Docket OST-99-5871 (U.S.-People's Republic of China certificate authority and allocation of 10 weekly frequencies) and that the Department provide that any answers and competing applications to that application be due at some reasonable time after issuance of the final order in the U.S.-China Air Services case, Docket OST-99-5539.

Applicant rep: M. Rush O'Keefe, Jr., (901) 395-5189 (Federal Express) and Jeffrey A. Manley (202) 879-5161 (United)

DOT Analyst: John L. Quay (202) 366-1052

DISPOSITION

XX Granted in part, denied in part

We have decided not to suspend the due date for answers (July 20, 1999) to American's application. However, we see no need to require the filing of competing applications at this time. American's application requests authority that becomes available April 1, 2001, under the U.S.-China aviation agreement. The Department stated in Order 99-6-17 (footnote 4) that it would institute a proceeding in the near future to consider applications for that new U.S.-China authority. As part of that process (which we would not initiate prior to conclusion of our proceeding in Docket OST-99-5539), we intend formally to call for applications from any interested parties for the April 1, 2001, U.S.-China opportunities. We will consider American's application only in conjunction with those applications which we receive at that subsequent time. Therefore, any carrier interested in filing an application for the new U.S.-China authority need not file a competing application by the due date for answers to American's application. In view of these circumstances, we determine that allowing the due date for answers to American's application to stand will prejudice no carrier's interests.

Action taken by: **Paul L. Gretch, Director**
Office of International Aviation

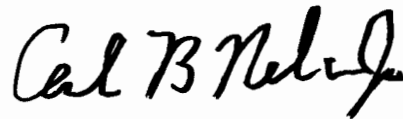
Persons entitled to petition the Department for review of the action set forth in this Notice under the Department's regulations, 14 CFR §385.30, may file their petitions within ten (10) days after the date of issuance of this Notice. This action was effective when taken, and the filing of a petition for review will not alter such effectiveness.

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

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document by email on the following persons:

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CARL B. NELSON, JR.

February 9, 2007