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Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
Docket Management Facility
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

December 28, 2007

Re: DOT-OST-2007-0108

*National Task Force to Develop Model Contingency
Plans to Deal with Lengthy
Airline On-Board Ground Delays*

Dear Department of Transportation Docket Section:

Following up the telephone invitation from DOT's Dayton Lehman, the Regional Airline Association (RAA) would be pleased to participate in the above-referenced national task force.

RAA represents more than 40 U.S. regional airlines which provide nearly one half the U.S. scheduled commercial departures and which carry more than one in every four domestic passengers. Moreover, our member airlines serve some 600 airports across the nation – a full 70% of which have service *only* from regional airlines.

Because of the significance of regional airlines in the U.S., the work of the task force carries significant potential consequence to our member airlines, our 60,000 employees and our 156 million annual passengers. In this regard, we request that not only RAA participate in the task force, but that you also consider qualified volunteers from our member airlines, whose expertise would prove invaluable to the group effort.

Also, while I propose to serve as RAA's principal representative on the task force, we would request that if the need arises, RAA be able to designate one of our other professional staff as the representative on either a temporary or permanent basis. In terms of my professional background, I have more than 30 years working in commercial aviation, including sales, communications, government relations and airport affairs at a major airline, the Air Transport Association and the Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association.

Thank you for your consideration, and please contact us if you need anything additional. We look forward to participating.

Sincerely,

Roger Cohen
President