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Order 2002-10-23

Served: October 22, 2002



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

Issued by the Department of Transportation  
on the 17th day of October, 2002

Essential Air Service at

**ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA  
JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

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

**Docket OST-2002-11446 - 25  
Docket OST-2002-11451 - 21**

**ORDER EXTENDING SERVICE OBLIGATION**

**Summary**

By this order, the Department is extending Chautauqua Airlines' (Chautauqua) service obligation at Altoona and Johnstown, PA, for an additional 30 days, through November 29, 2002.

**Background**

On January 31, 2002, Chautauqua Airlines, Inc., filed a 90-day notice of its intent to suspend its unsubsidized service at Altoona and Johnstown, Pennsylvania, effective May 1, 2002. By Order 2002-4-6, April 5, 2002, the Department prohibited Chautauqua from suspending service at the communities for an initial 30-day period, through May 31, 2002, 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 Chautauqua's service obligation for additional 30-day periods, the latest through October 30, 2002, by Order 2002-9-22.

By Order 2002-6-5, issued June 14, 2002, the Department set short-term final subsidy rates for Chautauqua's hold-in service at Altoona and Johnstown, effective May 1, 2002, until further Department action. By Order 2002-9-22, September 26, 2002, the Department selected Colgan Air to provide essential air service at Altoona and Johnstown for a two-year period. The carrier expects to begin on or about December 1, 2002. Until that time, as required by 49 U.S.C. 41734, we must continue to hold Chautauqua in for an additional 30-day period.

This order is issued under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.56a(f).

**ACCORDINGLY,**

1. The Department requires Chautauqua Airlines, Inc., to maintain essential air service at Altoona and Johnstown, Pennsylvania, consisting of three nonstop or one-stop round trips each weekday and weekend to Pittsburgh for an additional 30-day period, through November 29, 2002, or until Colgan Air inaugurates service, whichever occurs first;<sup>1</sup>
2. The Department directs Chautauqua to retain all books, records, and other source and summary documents 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. 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. Dockets OST-2002-11446 and 11451 will remain open until further order of the Department; and
4. The Department will serve a copy of this order on the Mayors and Airport Managers of Altoona and Johnstown, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and Chautauqua Airlines.

By:

**READ C. VAN de WATER**  
Assistant Secretary for Aviation  
and International Affairs

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

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 41734(c), we will extend Chautauqua's service obligation for successive 30-day periods as necessary until replacement service actually begins.