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24 March 2000

BRITISH AIRWAYS

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

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Lord Marshall of Knightsbridge
Chairman
and Chief Executive

Ms Donna R McLean
Office of Financial Services
US Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Association
800 Independence Ave SW
Washington DC 2059 1
USA

OFFICE OF THE
CHIEF COUNSEL
FILES DOCKET
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FAA-00-7018-18

Dear Ms McLean

Thank you for your letter dated 8 March 2000 and its comprehensive review of the events to date associated with the introduction of overflight fees as part of the sequenced introduction of User Charges by the Federal Aviation Authority.

You may be aware that British Airways has been actively following this issue since the 1997 ruling and most recently participating in the informal working groups between users and the FAA on cost accounting development. We fully appreciate the magnitude of the task that the FAA has been set by the **judgement** and although understanding that the Interim Final Rule process will only allow for consultation to start after its publication, we would wish to assure you that we will be fully engaged in the process before Final Rule. To assist us I would be grateful for the earliest possible advice on the structure of that consultation in the 60 days permitted.

Once again thank you for keeping us fully informed of these developments and for your reassurances regarding consideration of users positions at the time of consultation.

Yours sincerely



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