



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

Issued by the Department of Transportation
on the 3rd day of December, 2003

Essential Air Service at

GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

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

Served: December 8, 2003

DOCKET OST-2002-13983

ORDER EXTENDING SERVICE OBLIGATION

Summary

By this order, the Department of Transportation extends the service obligation of Great Lakes Aviation, Ltd. (Great Lakes), at Grand Island, Nebraska, for an additional 30 days, through [January 2, 2004](#).

Background

On December 2, 2002, Great Lakes filed a 90-day notice of its intent to suspend its unsubsidized service at Grand Island, effective March 3, 2003.¹ By Order 2003-2-10, February 12, 2003, the Department prohibited Great Lakes from suspending service beyond the end of its 90-day notice period, through April 2, 2003, 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 Great Lakes' service obligation for additional 30-day periods, the latest through [December 3, 2003](#), by Order [2003-10-29](#).

For a number of reasons, we recently reissued a Request for Proposals for six communities in Nebraska. (See Order 2003-12-2.) Proposals are due January 5, 2004. Therefore in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 41734(c), we will extend Great Lakes' service obligation at Grand Island for an additional 30 days, or until reliable replacement service actually begins, whichever occurs first.

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

ACCORDINGLY,

1. We require Great Lakes Aviation, Ltd., to maintain essential air service at Grand Island, Nebraska, consisting of at least three daily nonstop or one-stop round trips to Denver, for an

¹ Although Great Lakes' notice was dated November 27, we did not receive it until December 2, 2002.

additional 30-day period, through [January 2, 2004](#), or until reliable replacement service actually begins, whichever occurs first;²

2. We direct Great Lakes to retain all books, records, and other source and summary documentation 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, whichever comes first. 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. Docket OST-2002-13983, will remain open until further order of the Department; and

4. We will serve a copy of this order on the Mayor and Airport Manager of Grand Island, and Great Lakes Aviation.

By:

MICHAEL W. REYNOLDS
Acting Assistant Secretary for Aviation
and International Affairs

(SEAL)

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

² In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 41734(c), we will extend Great Lakes' service obligation for successive 30-day periods, as necessary, until replacement service actually begins.