



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

Issued by the Department of Transportation  
on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2004

Essential Air Service at

**ESCANABA, MICHIGAN**

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

**Served: February 5, 2004**

**DOCKET OST-2003-15128**

**ORDER EXTENDING SERVICE OBLIGATION**

**Summary**

By this order, the Department of Transportation extends the service obligation of Skyway Airlines, Inc., d/b/a Midwest Connect (Skyway), at Escanaba, Michigan, for an additional 30 days, through [March 5, 2004](#).

**Background**

On May 7, 2003, Skyway filed a 90-day notice of its intent to suspend its unsubsidized service at Escanaba, effective August 5, 2003. By Order 2003-6-19, June 13, 2003, the Department prohibited Skyway from suspending service beyond the end of its 90-day notice period, through September 4, 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 Skyway's service obligation for additional 30-day periods, the latest through [February 4, 2004](#), by Order [2003-12-19](#).

Although we have received proposals, this case will not be completed by the end of the current hold-in period. Therefore, in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 41734(c), we will extend Skyway's service obligation at Escanaba for an additional 30 days, or until suitable replacement service actually begins, whichever occurs first.

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

**ACCORDINGLY,**

1. We require Skyway Airlines, Inc., d/b/a Midwest Connect, to maintain essential air service between Escanaba and General Mitchell-Milwaukee International Airport, consisting of one one-stop and two nonstop round trips a day for an additional 30-day period through [March 5, 2004](#), or until suitable replacement service actually begins, whichever occurs first;<sup>1</sup>

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

2. We direct Skyway 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-2003-15128, 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 Escanaba, Michigan, and Skyway Airlines.

By:

**KARAN K. BHATIA**  
Assistant Secretary for Aviation  
and International Affairs

(SEAL)

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