

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Notice of Application for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart Q During the Week Ending May 30, 1997**

The following Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits were filed under Subpart Q of the Department of Transportation's Procedural Regulations (See 14 CFR 302.1701 et. seq.). The due date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to modify Scope are set forth below for each application. Following the Answer period DOT may process the application by expedited procedures. Such procedures may consist of the adoption of a show-cause order, a tentative order, or in appropriate cases a final order without further proceedings.

Docket Number: OST-97-2558

Date Filed: May 27, 1997

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: June 24, 1997

Description: Application of Continental Micronesia, Inc., pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 41102 and Subpart Q of the Department's Rules of Practice, for renewal of Segments 3, 4 (for the Philippines), 5 and 6 of its Route 171 authority for a five-year period.

Docket Number: OST-97-2560

Date Filed: May 28, 1997

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: June 25, 1997

Description: Application of American Airlines, Inc., pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 41102, and Subpart Q of the Regulations, applies for renewal of segments 1, 2, and 3 of its certificate of public convenience and necessity for Route 560 (Dallas/Ft. Worth-Cancun/Puerto Vallarta/Guadalajara, Mexico), as reissued by Order 96-11-25, November 29, 1996.

Docket Number: OST-97-2568

Date Filed: May 30, 1997

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: June 27, 1997

Description: Application of Delta Air Lines, Inc., pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Sections 41102 and 41108, and Subpart Q of the Department's Regulations, applies for renewal of its certificate of public convenience and necessity for Route 178, segments 1 and 4, issued most recently by Order 92-10-58, served October 30, 1992, authorizing Delta to engage in foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail between the terminal points

Atlanta, Georgia, and the terminal point London, England.

Delta's authority to serve Atlanta-London under its certificate for Route 178 expires on November 29, 1997. Delta requests renewal of this certificate authority for an additional five year duration.

Docket Number: OST-97-2569

Date Filed: May 30, 1997

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: June 27, 1997

Description: Application of Delta Air Lines, Inc., pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Sections 41102 and 41108, and Subpart Q of the Department's Procedural Regulations, applies for renewal of its certificate of public convenience and necessity for Route 562, segments 3, 4 and 6, which authorizes Delta to provide scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail between the terminal point Los Angeles, California, and the terminal point Mazatlan, Mexico (segment 3); between the terminal point Los Angeles, California, and the terminal point Puerto Vallarta, Mexico (segment 4); and between the terminal point Orlando, Florida, and the terminal point Mexico City, Mexico (segment 6). Delta's certificate for Route 562 was most recently reissued by Order 96-11-25, and amended by Order 97-4-27. The authority for segments 3, 4 and 6 expires on November 29, Delta requests renewal of this certificate authority for a five year duration.

Paulette V. Twine,

Chief, Documentary Services.

[FR Doc. 97-14862 Filed 6-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

[Docket 37554]

Notice of Order Adjusting the Standard Foreign Fare Level Index

Section 41509(e) of Title 49 of the United States Code requires that the Department, as successor to the Civil Aeronautics Board, establish a Standard Foreign Fare Level (SFFL) by adjusting the SFFL base periodically by percentage changes in actual operating costs per available seat-mile (ASM). Order 80-2-69 established the first interim SFFL, and Order 97-03-45 established the currently effective two-month SFFL applicable through May 31, 1997.

In establishing the SFFL for the two-month period beginning June 1, 1997,

we have projected non-fuel costs based on the year ended December 31, 1996 data, and have determined fuel prices on the basis of the latest available experienced monthly fuel cost levels as reported to the Department.

By Order 97-6-3 fares may be increased by the following adjustment factors over the October 1979 level:

Atlantic—1.4244

Latin America—1.4414

Pacific—1.5566

For further information contact: Keith A. Shangraw (202) 366-2439.

By the Department of Transportation: June 3, 1997.

Charles A. Hunnicutt,

Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-14864 Filed 6-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****Notice of National Parks Overflights Working Group Meetings**

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announce the dates for the National Parks Overflights Working Group (NPOWG) meetings. The NPOWG will meet June 11, 12 and 13; July 8 and 9; an August 4 and 5. The June and July meetings are open to the public, with certain restrictions explained in this notice. This notice serves to inform the public of the meeting dates for the working group.

DATES AND LOCATIONS: The National Parks Overflights Working Group will meet June 11 (beginning at 1:00 p.m.) June 12, and 13; July 8 and 9 (beginning at 9 a.m.); and August 4 and 5 (beginning at 9 a.m.), 1997. The June and July meetings will be held in Washington, DC at locations to be determined. The August meeting, which is now planned as a closed meeting, will be held in Denver, Colorado.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carla Mattix, Office of the Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240, telephone: (202) 208-7957, or Linda Williams, Office of Rulemaking, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Ave., Washington, DC 20591, telephone: (202) 267-9685.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

By notice in the **Federal Register** on May 22, 1997, the NPS and FAA

announced the formation of the NPOWG. The working group is established to recommend a notice of proposed rulemaking which would define the process to reduce or prevent the adverse effects of commercial sightseeing flights over the National Parks where deemed necessary. The working group held its first sessions on May 20 and 21, 1997, in Washington, DC.

The overflights working group is composed of nine members representing a balance of air tour operators, both fixed and rotary wing; general aviation users; other commercial aviation interests; national tour associations; environmental groups; and Native Americans. Co-chairs for the working group have been selected by the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Department of Interior (DOI). DOT and DOI representatives will act as advisors to the membership, but will not be active members of the working group. A facilitator provides focus for the group.

The working group will terminate 100 days from the date of its initial meeting. The group will make its final recommendations to the ARAC and NPS Advisory Board at the end of that 100 days. The ARAC and NPS Advisory Board will review the recommendations of the working group and report to the NPS and FAA. Progress or status reports from the working group are expected every 21 days. NPS and FAA anticipate that the final product of the NPOWG will be a recommended notice of proposed rulemaking.

Meeting Location and Protocol

Because the meeting location has not been selected as of the date of this notice, persons interested in attending the June or July meetings should contact a person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Readers are also reminded that the June meeting will begin at 1:00 on the 11th and end at noon on the 13th.

The June and July meetings are open to the public. In keeping with the organizational protocols developed by the working group, the following rules apply: Only working group members (or their alternates when filling in for a member) have the privilege of sitting at the negotiating table and of speaking from the floor during the negotiations without working group approval, except: any member may call upon another individual to elaborate on a relevant point, the NPS and FAA advisors to the working group have the full right to the floor and may raise and address appropriate points, and any person attending working group

meetings may address the working group if time permits and may file statements with the working group for its consideration.

The final report of the NPOWG will be made available to the public when it is reported to the Advisory Board and ARAC. In addition, both agencies envision that public meetings will be held following the publication of a notice of proposed rulemaking on the issues regarding overflights of the national parks.

Issued in Washington, DC on June 2, 1997.

Ida M. Klepper,

Acting Director of Rulemaking.

[FR Doc. 97-14780 Filed 6-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-103 (Sub-No. 12X)]

The Kansas City Southern Railway Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Webster, Bienville, Natchitoches and Winn Parishes, LA

The Kansas City Southern Railway Company (KCS) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 61.62-mile line of railroad between milepost 83.02 at or near Sibley, and milepost 144.64 at or near Carla, in Webster, Bienville, Natchitoches and Winn Parishes, LA. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 71039, 71045, 71002, 71070 and 71410.

KCS has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic on the line; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected

employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on July 6, 1997, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,¹ formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),² and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29³ must be filed by June 16, 1997. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by June 26, 1997, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: Thomas F. McFarland, Jr., McFarland & Herman, 20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 1330, Chicago, IL 60606-2902.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

KCS has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by June 11, 1997. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1545. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), KCS shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the line. If

¹ The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Service Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C. 2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

² Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$900. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

³ The Board will accept late-filed trail use requests as long as the abandonment has not been consummated and the abandoning railroad is willing to negotiate an agreement.