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3:00 p.m.



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

In the Matter of

1999 U.S.-Argentina Combination Service Case

Docket OST-1999-6210

Served:November 30, 2000

NOTICE REACTIVATING PROCEEDING

In November 1999, the Department instituted the captioned proceeding to award 14 weekly frequencies that would be available for new service to Argentina. The first seven frequencies were to become available on September 1, 2000, and the remaining seven were to have been available on June 1, 2001. Continental Airlines, Delta Air Lines, and United Airlines filed applications. Continental sought all of the available frequencies for service from both Newark and Houston; Delta sought seven weekly frequencies for service from Atlanta; and United sought seven weekly frequencies for service from Los Angeles. Civic parties from each of the proposed cities also participated in the proceeding. In accordance with the procedural schedule set forth in the Department's instituting order, all of the parties filed Direct Exhibits, Rebuttal Exhibits and Briefs.

We have recently agreed with Argentina on a modification of the dates for implementing the new service rights. Seven of the fourteen weekly frequencies will now become available on April 1, 2001, and the remaining seven will become available on December 1, 2001. While the timing for implementation of the service rights has changed, we believe that the record developed in the *1999 U.S.-Argentina Combination Service Case*, except for some limited updating as set forth below, will be adequate for us to reach a decision in this case, and we intend to proceed to select among the applications filed based on that record.

We request that any comments to this approach, as well as updated information from the carriers with respect to the availability of the aircraft proposed for their services and the carrier's ability to use the frequencies based on the revised schedule for implementation of new services, be filed in the proceeding docket within five calendar days of the date of service of this notice. We request that any answers be filed within three calendar days thereafter, and that replies be filed within two calendar days of the requested answer date.

We also note that on November 29, 2000, Delta filed a motion for immediate action in the case and calling for an expedited final Department decision in order to facilitate prompt implementation of services by the selected carriers. As Delta's November 29 motion is relevant to the issues encompassed by this notice, we will also require that any responsive pleadings to Delta's motion be filed in accordance with the procedural dates established above for comments and answers.¹

We will serve this notice on all parties to Docket OST-1999-6210.

By:

SUSAN MCDERMOTT
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aviation
and International Affairs

(SEAL)

Dated: November 30, 2000

*An electronic version of this notice is available on the World Wide Web at
http://dms.dot.gov/reports/reports_aviation.asp*

¹ Under our procedural rules, answers to Delta's motion would normally be due December 8. Moreover, there is no provision for any further responsive pleadings. In this case, we will shorten the period for filing answers and will provide the opportunity for the filing of replies to answers in accordance with the procedural schedule set forth in this notice.