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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, DC

Docket: OST-95-764

Served: March 26, 2001

NOTICE

2001 Hong Kong Fifth-Freedom All-Cargo Frequencies

By Order 2001-3-10, in this docket, the Department set the procedural schedule for U.S. air carriers interested in using fifth-freedom traffic rights for all-cargo services to and from Hong Kong, requiring that Direct Exhibits be filed by April 2, 2001, that Rebuttal Exhibits be filed by April 16, 2001, and that Briefs be filed by April 30, 2001. Federal Express, United Parcel Service, Polar Air Cargo, Evergreen International Airlines, Northwest Airlines, and Gemini Air Cargo are the only parties to this proceeding.

On March 21, 2001, Federal Express filed a motion requesting that the Department extend for ten calendar days the dates for filing Direct Exhibits, Rebuttal Exhibits, and Briefs. Federal Express stated that its counsel would be attending U.S.-Hong Kong bilateral air service negotiations until March 30, 2001, in Hong Kong and that the travel time and date differences between the U.S. and Hong Kong would make it impossible to meet the current schedule. Counsel for Federal Express stated that all of the other parties to this case had no objection to this extension.

The new procedural schedule requested by Federal Express would be as follows:

- Direct Exhibits: April 12, 2001
- Rebuttal Exhibits: April 26, 2001
- Briefs: May 10, 2001

After the filing of Federal Express' motion, bilateral negotiations between the United States and Hong Kong were postponed. We have decided, nonetheless, to extend the procedural schedule as described above. No party had opposed Federal Express' revised schedule and the requested extension is for only a short period of time that would not prejudice any party's interests in this case. Moreover, we note that many parties may have already adjusted their exhibit preparations based on Federal Express' initial uncontested request. In these circumstances, we find that it is in the public interest to extend the procedural dates in this proceeding.

We will serve this Notice on all parties to this proceeding by facsimile.

By:

PAUL L. GRETCH
Director
Office of International Aviation

(SEAL)

Dated: March 26, 2001

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