

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The government of Mongolia has requested that it be granted eligibility for beneficiary status under the GSP program. The Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) has initiated a review to determine if Mongolia should be designated as a beneficiary developing country. A country may not be designated a GSP beneficiary developing country, absent a finding that such designation would be in the economic interests of the United States, if any one of several elements are found, including: the participation by the country in a commodity cartel that causes serious disruption to the world economy; the provision by the country of preferential treatment to products of other developed countries which has a significant adverse effect on U.S. commerce; the expropriation by the country of U.S.-owned property without compensation; a failure by the country to enforce arbitral awards in favor of U.S. persons; the support by the country of international terrorism; or a failure by the country to take steps to protect internationally recognized worker rights. Other factors taken into account in determining whether a country will be designated a beneficiary developing country include: the extent to which the country has assured the United States that it will provide market access for U.S. goods; the extent to which the country has taken action to reduce trade-distorting investment practices and policies; and the extent to which the country is providing adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights. The criteria for designation are set forth in full in section 502 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2462).

Interested parties are invited to submit comments regarding the eligibility of Mongolia for designation as a GSP beneficiary developing country. Submission of comments must be made in English in 14 copies to the Chairman of the GSP Subcommittee, Trade Policy Staff Committee, and be received in Room 518 at 600 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20508, no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, April 2, 1999. Except for submissions granted "business confidential" status pursuant to 15 CFR 2003.6 information and comments submitted regarding Mongolia will be subject to public inspection by appointment with the staff of the USTR Public Reading Room. For an appointment, please call Ms. Brenda Webb at 202/395-6186. If the document contains business confidential information, 14 copies of a nonconfidential version of the

submission along with 14 copies of the confidential version must be submitted. In addition, the submission should be clearly marked "confidential" at the top and bottom of each page of the document. The version which does not contain business confidential information (the public version) should also be clearly marked at the top and bottom of each page (either "public version" or "non-confidential").

Frederick L. Montgomery,
Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.
[FR Doc. 99-1551 Filed 1-22-99; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3190-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart Q During the Week Ending January 15, 1999

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-99-5002.

Date Filed: January 13, 1999.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope: February 10, 1999.

Description: Application of Continental Micronesia, Inc., pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 41102 and Subpart Q, applies for renewal of its Guam/Saipan-Osaka authority for a five year period.

Docket Number: OST-99-5008.

Date Filed: January 15, 1999.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope: February 12, 1999.

Description: Application of Community Air, Inc., pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 41102 and Subpart Q, applies for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing scheduled air transportation of persons, property, and mail within the states of California and Nevada.

Docket Number: OST-99-5010.

Date Filed: January 15, 1999.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope: February 12, 1999.

Description: Application of Wrangell Mountain Air, Inc., pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 41102 and Subpart Q, applies for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing interstate scheduled passenger, cargo, and mail air transportation between any point in any state in the United States or District of Columbia, or any territory or possession of the United States, and any other point in any state of the United States or the District of Columbia, or any territory or possession of the United States.

Dorothy W. Walker,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 99-1563 Filed 1-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Executive Committee of the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee; Meeting

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The FAA is issuing this notice to advise the public of a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Federal Aviation Administration Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee.

DATES: The meeting will be held on February 10, 1999, at 10 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Room 3200-3204, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Miss Jean Casciano, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591, telephone (202) 267-9683; fax (202) 267-5075; e-mail Jean.Casciano@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463; 5 U.S.C. App. II), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Executive Committee to be held on February 10, 1999, at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Room 3200-3204, Washington, DC, 10 a.m. The agenda will include:

- "Voting" members on working groups.
- Assessment of working group support.

- Administrative issues.

Attendance is open to the interested public but will be limited to the space available. The public must make arrangements by February 1, 1999, to present oral statements at the meeting. The public may present written statements to the executive committee at any time by providing 25 copies to the Executive Director, or by bringing the copies to her at the meeting.

Sign and oral interpretation, as well as an assistive listening device, can be made available if requested 10 calendar days before the meeting by contacting the person listed under the heading **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 15, 1999.

Ida M. Klepper,

Acting Executive Director, Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee.

[FR Doc. 99-1552 Filed 1-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Implementation of Section 360 of the Omnibus Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105-277)

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of implementation of Section 360 of the Omnibus Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1999.

SUMMARY: Section 360 of the Omnibus Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105-277) provides that FTA may allow certain recipients of Urbanized Area Formula Funds (Section 5307 of Title 49 U.S.C.) in areas with populations 200,000 or over that provide service for elderly persons and persons with disabilities, with 20 or fewer vehicles, to use a portion of their Section 5307 funds for operating assistance. Because of changes made by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), such funds would normally not be available for Federal transit operating assistance.

The chief executive or authorized official of a transit operation who believes his or her operation to be eligible for Federal transit operating assistance under Section 360 may submit a letter of intent to use the provisions of Section 360. The letter of intent should identify the transit property, address the criteria for eligibility listed herein, and identify the amount of funds that will be requested for Federal transit operating assistance for Fiscal Year 1999.

DATES: A letter of intent to apply for funds pursuant to Section 360 must be received by the appropriate FTA Regional Office on or before April 15, 1999. FTA will make a determination of the amount that may be used for Federal transit operating assistance on or before May 14, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Addresses of FTA Regional Offices are as follows:

Region 1—Boston. Transportation Systems Center, Kendall Square, 55 Broadway, Suite 920, Cambridge, MA. 02142-1093

Tel. 617 494-2055

Region 2—New York. I Bowling Green, New York, NY 10274

Tel. No. 212 264-8162

Region 3—Philadelphia. 1760 Market Street, Suite 500, Philadelphia, PA 19103-4124

Tel. 215 656-7100

Region 4—Atlanta. 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Suite 17T50 Atlanta, GA 30303-8917

Tel. 404 562-3500

Region 5—Chicago. 200 W. Adams Street, Suite 2410, Chicago, IL 60606-5232

Tel. 312 353-2789

Region 6—Ft. Worth. 819 Taylor Street, Room 8A36 Ft. Worth, TX 76102

Tel. 817 978-0550

Region 7—Kansas City, MO. 6301 Rockhill Road, Suite 303 Kansas City, MO 64131-1117

Tel. 816 523-0204

Region 8—Denver. Columbine Place, 216 16th St., Suite 650 Denver, CO 80202-5120

Tel. 303 844-3242

Region 9—San Francisco. 201 Mission Street, Room 2210 San Francisco, CA 94105-1800

Tel. 415 744-3133

Region 10—Seattle. Jackson Federal Building, 915 Second Avenue, Suite 3142 Seattle, WA 98174-1002

Tel. 206 220-7954

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Douglas A. Kerr, Director, Office of Program Guidance and Support, Federal Transit Administration (Tel. (202) 366-1656).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the Omnibus Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105-277 dated October 21, 1998, Congress added a provision that allows operating expenses of certain transit operators in areas with populations of 200,000 and over to be an eligible cost category under the Urbanized Area Formula Program, Section 5307 of Title 49 U.S.C. The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) (Pub. L. 105-178) eliminated the eligibility of Federal transit operating assistance for

urbanized areas with populations 200,000 or over. The provision, Section 360 of the Omnibus Act, amends Section 3027 of the TEA-21 by adding the following language:

“(3) Services for Elderly and Persons with Disabilities. In addition to assistance made available under paragraph (1), the Secretary may provide assistance under section 5307 of title 49 United States Code, to a transit provider that operates 20 or fewer vehicles in an urbanized area with a population of at least 200,000 to finance the operating costs of equipment and facilities used by the transit provider in providing mass transportation services to elderly and persons with disabilities, provided that such assistance to all entities shall not exceed \$1,000,000 annually.”

The intent of Congress is to protect—“hold harmless”—from the loss of Federal transit operating assistance certain small providers in urbanized areas larger than 200,000 that provide demand-responsive service to accommodate elderly persons and/or persons with disabilities in areas in which there is no other transit service. The provision of Section 360 is designed not as a new window of opportunity to use Federal funds for transit operating assistance but as a corrective action to address a need the Congress identified in large urbanized areas in which there is no other transit service provided for elderly persons and persons with disabilities.

Amount Available

Section 5307 funds made eligible for operating assistance by Omnibus Act amount to a total of \$1 million per year. Such demand responsive service to elderly persons and/or persons with disabilities will be eligible for FTA operating assistance at the 50/50 Federal/local share ratio.

The \$1 million made eligible for Federal transit operating assistance by Section 360 of the Omnibus Act is not additional money; nor is it a set-aside. Rather, this provision establishes an optional additional eligibility for the use of Section 5307 funds by past recipients of Section 5307 funds that qualify to use a portion of the Fiscal Year 1999 funds for operating assistance.

Funds for ADA-Related Paratransit

The funds eligible for operating assistance under Section 360 of the Omnibus Act are not available to operate the paratransit services complementary to fixed route bus services that are required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12143). TEA-21, at Section 3027, amended Section 5302(a) of Federal transit law to expand the