



QA  
24174

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**U.S. Department of  
Transportation**

Assistant Secretary

400 Seventh St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Office of the Secretary  
of Transportation

June 14, 1997

The Honorable Mark W. Schwiebert  
Mayor of Rock Island  
Rock Island, Illinois 61201-8678

OST-97-2557-25

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
DOCKET 97-2557  
97 JUN 23 11:11:42

Dear Mayor Schwiebert:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the application of AirTran Airways, Inc. for an exemption from Subparts K and S of 14 CFR Part 93 (High Density Rule) to enable it to operate nonstop air service between New York LaGuardia and a number of other cities, including Moline/Quad Cities, Illinois. We understand that Rock Island is one of the Quad Cities.

As this application is currently pending before the Department and has been contested, I am sure you understand that the Department's rules preclude me from commenting on the merits. I assure you, however, that we will consider all relevant factors in reaching our decision.

I am placing a copy of your letter and my response in Docket OST-97-2557 and in the file for contacts outside the record of the case.

I appreciate your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Hunnicutt  
Assistant Secretary for Aviation  
and International Affairs

3/bps



May 28, 1997



Mr. Rodney E. Slater  
 Secretary  
 Department of Transportation  
 400 7th Street, S.W., Room 10200  
 Washington, DC 20590

Re: Docket # OST-97-2557 - AirTran Proposed Flights from Quad Cities Illinois to LaGuardia Airport in New York

Dear Secretary Slater:

I'm taking this opportunity to write to you in support of the request by AirTran for direct flights between the Quad Cities/Bloomington Normal, Illinois to LaGuardia Airport in New York.

With a population base within a 50 mile radius of about 700,000 people, the Quad Cities direct air link to New York City could provide an important connection for our Midwestern community to serve commercial and business as well as tourism purposes. As the host community for Deere and Company, a Fortune 500 corporation, and the center for an increasing number of businesses with national and global business dealings, the Quad Cities connection with New York provide a natural next step in our area's efforts to grow into the 21st Century.

I hope you will view with favor the application of AirTran for this direct air service to LaGuardia Airport in New York and welcome you to contact the undersigned, John Gardner at the Quad City Development Group, or Kent George, Director of the Quad Cities Airport for further information regarding this application.

Mayor Mark W. Schwiebert  
 1528 Third Avenue / Rock Island, Illinois 61201-8678  
 phone (309) 793-3321 fax (309) 793-0655



Thanking you in advance for your hoped for favorable action on this, I remain,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark W. Schwiebert', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark W. Schwiebert  
Mayor

MWS:jp

xc: John Gardner  
Kent George

