

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

The Honorable Mary Peters
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590
USA

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I am writing to you to express my concern about the anti-competitive application by British Airways (BA) and American Airlines (AA) for anti-trust immunity. This proposal poses insurmountable competition issues and raises significant concerns regarding the adverse consumer impact it will have.

If the application were to be approved, BA/AA would have a stranglehold on US- London Heathrow services and an overwhelming frequency and schedule advantage over other airlines on the densest US-London Heathrow markets. As a result, BA/AA would enjoy a position of unchallengeable market dominance. Such presence by BA/AA on individual routes would stifle competition from existing carriers. Even if other carriers were able to access Heathrow, the dominance which BA/AA would have over the most popular Heathrow-US markets would deter competition from new entrants.

I trust that your Department will examine all the evidence carefully and pay particular attention to the damage to consumers' interests that approval of the application would cause.

Sincerely,

Rhea Jalanta 11/27/08
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