

as those air carriers that operate fewer than five percent of the slots at DCA and LGA. Frontier urges the Department to allocate the divested slots into smaller bundles than what was proposed in the Notice of the revised Petition and prohibit an air carrier from acquiring all of the slots. Additionally, Frontier argues that divested LGA slots should not be transferable to EWR, and that exempting Frontier from the “no subsidiaries” requirement is fully justified and in the public interest.

Southwest submitted responsive comments supporting the Department’s definition of “limited incumbent” in this proceeding, pointing out that any other definition would be inconsistent with the May 2010 Notice regarding the previous, similar transaction, and arguing that the proposed definition ensures that the divested slots are “put to their best competitive use * * * to produce the maximum public benefits and partially offset the anticompetitive effects of the slot swap.” Southwest further argues that this definition is justified in order to ensure that the transaction is in the public interest. It also claimed that smaller bundles of slots would provide only “weak and diffuse” competition by low-fare carriers. Southwest also supported a simple auction format in which the highest bidder won each bundle of slots.

Continental Airlines, Inc. and United Air Lines, Inc. submitted responsive comments opposing Virgin America’s suggestion that divested LGA slots should be transferable to EWR.

In a September 13, 2011 submission, JetBlue reiterated its position that additional slot divestitures are required to ameliorate the anticompetitive effects of the proposed transaction. It also continued to argue that “limited incumbent” was defined in statute by the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century (AIR-21), and that implementation of AIR-21 is the core issue in this proceeding.

CAA responded to these comments in a September 21, 2011 filing, and restated the benefits it believes accrue to the public from allowing carriers with more than five percent of the slots at either airport to participate in the auction.

[FR Doc. 2011-26465 Filed 10-11-11; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Technical Standard Order (TSO)-C129a, Airborne Supplemental Navigation Equipment Using the Global Positioning System (GPS)

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT

ACTION: Notice of cancellation of TSO-C129a, *Airborne Supplemental Navigation Equipment Using the Global Positioning System (GPS)*.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the FAA’s cancellation of TSO-C129a,

Airborne Supplemental Navigation Equipment Using the Global Positioning System (GPS) effective October 21, 2011. TSO cancellation will not affect production according to an existing TSO authorization (TSOA). Articles produced under an existing TSOA can still be installed according to existing airworthiness approvals and applications for new airworthiness approvals will still be processed.

The effect of the cancelled TSO will result in no new TSO-C129a design or production approvals. However, we will accept applications for new TSO-C129a TSO Authorizations (TSOA) until October 21, 2012 if we know that you were working toward a TSO-C129a approval prior to October 21, 2011.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 20, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Kevin Bridges, AIR-130, Federal Aviation Administration, 470 L’Enfant Plaza, Suite 4102, Washington, DC 20024. Telephone (202) 385-4627, fax (202) 385-4651, e-mail to: kevin.bridges@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FAA published a **Federal Register** notice on August 16, 2011 (76 FR 50808) describing our intent to cancel TSO-C129a to solicit feedback. We received a total of six comments from three parties with questions or concerns about the cancellation. For example, there was a comment to provide a transition period for applicants working toward a TSO-C129a approval prior to the cancellation date. The FAA agreed with this comment and has included a transition period in this notice. Another comment expressed concern regarding how an existing TSO-C129a technical standard order authorization (TSOA) would be addressed on an article with multiple TSOAs that has a change not affecting TSO-C129a. The FAA agrees to address this issue through a policy revision and/or policy memo. However, none of the parties providing comments expressed an objection to TSO-C129a being cancelled or provided reasons to not cancel the TSO.

Comments Invited

You are invited to comment on the cancellation of the TSO by submitting written data, views, or arguments to the above address on or before October 14, 2011. The Director, Aircraft Certification Service, will consider all comments post-marked or received before the TSO cancellation date.

Background

On September 21, 2009, the FAA published TSO-C196, Airborne

Supplemental Navigation Sensors for Global Positioning System Equipment Using Aircraft-Based Augmentation; an updated minimum performance standard for GPS sensors not augmented by satellite-based or ground-based systems (*i.e.*, TSO-C129a Class B and Class C). The FAA has also published two TSOs for GPS augmented by the satellite-based augmentation system (TSO-C145c, Airborne Navigation Sensors Using the Global Positioning System Augmented by the Satellite-Based Augmentation System; and, TSO-C146c, Stand-Alone Navigation Equipment Using the Global Positioning System Augmented by the Satellite-Based Augmentation System).

TSO-C145c, TSO-C146c, and TSO-C196 incorporate more stringent standards and testing requirements that make the GPS equipment more accurate and robust than sensors built to the minimum requirements in TSO-C129a. Two examples of these improvements are: (1) A requirement for the receiver to properly account for satellite range error if it is reflected in the User Range Accuracy index (commonly referred to as being “Selective Availability aware”); and, (2) requirements to ensure performance is not degraded due to an increasing radio frequency noise environment as other satellite systems become available.

Since 2005, there has only been one application for a TSO-C129a TSOA on a new article. Many manufacturers informally indicate they are transitioning, or planning to transition, their product lines to the new TSOs. Therefore, we believe cancelling TSO-C129a is an appropriate way to assist the natural phase-out/upgrade cycle given the eventual obsolescence of TSO-C129a equipment and industry’s lack of interest in new TSO-C129a designs.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 7, 2011.

Susan J.M. Cabler,

Assistant Manager, Aircraft Engineering Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2011-26449 Filed 10-12-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. FD 35553]

Big Spring Rail System, Inc.; Operation Exemption; Transport Handling Specialists, Inc.

Big Spring Rail System, Inc. (BSRS), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to

operate over approximately 2.07 miles of rail line between mileposts 0.0 and 2.07± in Howard County, Tex., owned by the City of Big Spring, Tex. (City). BSRS will be operating the line for Transport Handling Specialists, Inc., a nonoperating carrier, which is leasing the line from the City. BSRS states that it intends to interchange traffic with Union Pacific Railroad Company at milepost 0.0.

The transaction may be consummated on or after October 27, 2011 (30 days after the notice of exemption was filed).

BSRS certifies that its projected annual revenues as a result of this transaction would not exceed those that would qualify it as a Class III rail carrier and further certifies that its projected annual revenues will not exceed \$5 million.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions for stay must be filed no later than October 20, 2011 (at least 7 days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 35553, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be served on Baxter Wellmon, 1554 Paoli Pike, #179, West Chester, PA 19380.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: October 5, 2011.

By the Board.

Rachel D. Campbell,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2011-26245 Filed 10-12-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Open Meeting of the Area 6 Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (Including the States of Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming)

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: An open meeting of the Area 6 Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be conducted. The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel is soliciting public comment, ideas, and suggestions on improving customer service at the Internal Revenue Service.

DATES: The meeting will be held Wednesday, November 2, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy Shepard at 1-888-912-1227 or 206-220-6095.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Area 6 Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be held Wednesday, November 2, 2011, at 11 a.m. Pacific Time via telephone conference. The public is invited to make oral comments or submit written statements for consideration. Due to limited conference lines, notification of intent to participate must be made with Timothy Shepard. For more information please contact Mr. Shepard at 1-888-912-1227 or 206-220-6095, or write TAP Office, 915 2nd Avenue, MS W-406, Seattle, WA 98174 or post comments to the Web site: <http://www.improveirs.org>.

The agenda will include various IRS issues.

Dated: October 6, 2011.

Shawn Collins,
Director, Taxpayer Advocacy Panel.

[FR Doc. 2011-26404 Filed 10-12-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Open Meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel Small Business/Self Employed Correspondence Exam Practitioner Engagement Project Committee

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: An open meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel Small Business/Self Employed Correspondence Exam Practitioner Engagement Project Committee will be conducted. The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel is soliciting public comments, ideas, and suggestions on improving customer service at the Internal Revenue Service.

DATES: The meeting will be held Wednesday, November 23, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janice Spinks at 1-888-912-1227 or 206-220-6098.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel Small Business/Self Employed Correspondence Exam Practitioner Engagement Project Committee will be held Wednesday, November 23, 2011, at 9 a.m. Pacific Time via telephone conference. The public is invited to make oral comments or submit written statements for consideration. Due to limited conference lines, notifications of intent to participate must be made with Ms. Janice Spinks. For more information please contact Ms. Spinks at 1-888-912-1227 or 206-220-6098, or write TAP Office, 915 2nd Avenue, MS W-406, Seattle, WA 98174 or post comments to the Web site: <http://www.improveirs.org>.

The agenda will include various IRS issues.

Dated: October 6, 2011.

Shawn Collins,
Director, Taxpayer Advocacy Panel.

[FR Doc. 2011-26405 Filed 10-12-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Open Meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel Taxpayer Assistance Center Project Committee

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: An open meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel Taxpayer Assistance Center Project Committee will be conducted. The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel is soliciting public comments, ideas, and suggestions on improving customer service at the Internal Revenue Service.

DATES: The meeting will be held Tuesday, November 22, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ellen Smiley at 1-888-912-1227 or 414-231-2360.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel Taxpayer Assistance Center Project Committee will be held Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 2 p.m.