

February 4, 2010



Mr. Dennis DeVany, Chief
Essential Air Service Div.
Office of Aviation Analysis
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Re: EAS for Plattsburgh International Airport

Dear Mr. DeVany:

Home of:

North Country
Small Business
Council

Adirondack Coast
Visitors & Convention
Bureau

North Country
Industrial Council

Québec-New York
Corridor Coalition

New York's
Tech Valley

S.C.O.R.E.

Essex County
Business Council

Plattsburgh-
North Country
Service Corp.

Serving:

Clinton
Essex
Franklin
Warren
Hamilton
Southern Québec

The Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce is the largest business organization in northern New York, representing more than 3,257 companies and organizations in Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties. This includes being the chamber of commerce for Clinton County including the City and Town of Plattsburgh.

On behalf of the business community, we want to take this opportunity to express our strongest possible support for the selection of Colgan Air as the new EAS air service provider at Plattsburgh International Airport.

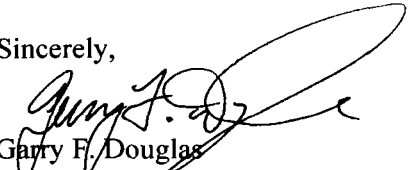
The Plattsburgh-North Country business community has, in various surveys, consistently expressed its desire for a provider of branded air service -- with US Airways Express their #1 hub-connecting airline choice -- and for larger aircraft than the 9-seat Cessnas operated by Cape Air. What they are anxiously awaiting is a "business" style option, such as the Saabs now being offered by Colgan.

In addition to strong support from the area business community for the Colgan bid, our Chamber conducted an electronic survey last weekend of the 15,000+ subscribers of our monthly "Plattsburgh International Airport Newsletter" to determine their preferences. 73.1% expressed their preference for Colgan over Cape Air. 85.5% expressed a preference for the 34-seat Saab aircraft which would be deployed by Colgan, while only 7.2% wanted service by Cessnas as offered by Cape Air. Of those who have never flown from Plattsburgh on Cape Air, a full 78% stated that they would consider using US Airways Express service by Colgan, if available.

The Colgan proposal is a remarkable opportunity to respond to the real preferences and desires of this market, to significantly grow enplanements and service, and to eventually reduce the need for federal financial support.

The Plattsburgh business community endorses the Colgan bid and requests its approval by the Transportation Department.

Sincerely,


Garry F. Douglas
President and CEO

cc: Rep. W. Owens
Sen. C. Schumer
Sen. K. Gillibrand

A Strong Partner for Strong Business in the North Country

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U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE