



February 13, 2020

Scott Faulk
Transportation Industry Analyst
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of Aviation Analysis
EAS and Domestic Analysis Division

Dear Mr. Faulk,

Ref: DOCKET DOT-OST-1997-2785, Order 2019-12-8

The Devils Lake Regional Airport welcomes the opportunity to respond to the proposed 2020 DOT Essential Air Service contract, Order 2019-12-8, to provide air service for the community of Devils Lake, ND and the surrounding area.

The Devils Lake Regional Airport Authority Board, along with the supporting letters, all agree that SkyWest Airlines is our choice to continue to serve our community. SkyWest has provided good, reliable air service to the Devils Lake Region since they began serving our area in 2014. The need for dependable air service is critical for the economy of Devils Lake, in order to foster the continued growth of our business community, the booming tourism industry, and the traveling public. The last four years of boardings have been record setting and we see no reason for that momentum not to continue. An added feature that SkyWest brings is the utilization of the Denver Hub. The Devils Lake Regional Airport is the only airport in the northeast quarter of the state that has daily trips to the west. This has expanded our market area.

SkyWest provides jet service to us on a 50 passenger CRJ aircraft with all the comforts and amenities. They offer us 12 roundtrips per week, with access to United Airlines global network through the Denver hub. All of these things add great value when it comes to our air service needs. DVL and JMS have always been tied together as a looped route. SkyWest proposes the same looped route, which has worked well. The credibility and reliability that SkyWest brings to the table can only be measured by the confidence that is shown by the increasing number of travelers using the Devils Lake Regional Airport.

The Devils Lake Regional Airport Authority strongly recommends the selection of SkyWest Airlines as the air service provider for the next two years. They have served our community and the surrounding area very well with their air service and we feel that they can help us achieve the next level of air service.

Devils Lake Regional Airport
106 National Guard Street NW
Devils Lake, ND 58301

Ph: 701 662-5833 E-mail: manager@devilslakeairport.com FAX: 701 662 5133



Devils Lake

REGIONAL AIRPORT

We thank you for allowing us to provide our comments and if there is any other information that we can provide to assist with the selection of SkyWest as our air service provider, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Dennis Olson
Chairman
Devils Lake Regional Airport Authority

Devils Lake Regional Airport

106 National Guard Street NW
Devils Lake, ND 58301

Ph: 701 662-5833 E-mail: manager@devilslakeairport.com FAX: 701 662 5133

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City Commission:
Richard Johnson, President
Rick Morse
Craig Stromme
Dale Robbins

February 10, 2020

Scott Faulk
Transportation Industry Analyst
US Department of Transportation
Office of Aviation Analysis
EAS & Domestic Analysis Division

Dear Mr. Faulk,

The City of Devils Lake, North Dakota thanks you for the opportunity to respond to the Essential Air Service proposals for service to the City of Devils Lake.

The City of Devils Lake, in conjunction with the State of North Dakota and the FAA, has made significant upgrades to our airport. We now have a very nice airport with updated facilities, infrastructure and equipment. SKYWEST has provided dependable jet service to Denver and as a result we have seen boardings increase significantly and continue to rise. We added on to our parking lot to accommodate more people from surrounding communities who are using our airport.

The Devils Lake area continues to be mainly a farming community. We are seeing an increase in our tourism industry because of our great fishery. We foresee continuous steady growth in our community and feel a good EAS carrier is essential to that growth.

We strongly recommend that SKYWEST is awarded the EAS Contract for the Devils Lake Regional Airport. Thank you for the opportunity to give our input.

Sincerely,

Richard Johnson
Mayor

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February 10th, 2020

Scott Faulk
United States Department of Transportation
Office of Aviation Analysis
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Faulk:

On behalf of the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission, I would like to provide a response to the 2020 DOT Essential Air Service contract, Order 2019-12-8.

Reliable air service to Jamestown and Devils Lake is critical to North Dakota as it provides a strong catalyst for the current and future economic development of these cities as well as the rural communities surrounding them.

I support the decision that both Jamestown and Devils Lake have adopted to request the acceptance of the air service bid submitted by SkyWest Airlines, a company that has a strong reputation and proven track record within these communities.

Since SkyWest began their operation at these two airports in 2014, Jamestown and Devils Lake have continued to experience strong passenger growth which has recently led to record enplanement numbers for both communities. This growth can be attributed to a growing economy and population base as well as the fact that both airports are able to capture a larger part of their market share now that they have a dependable schedule and an airline that works to achieve a high level of customer satisfaction.

I appreciate all of your work in helping to secure airline service for the Jamestown, Devils Lake and surrounding communities. If you have any questions in regards to this response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kyle Wanner".

Kyle Wanner
Executive Director
North Dakota Aeronautics Commission



February 10, 2020

Mr. Scott Faulk
Transportation Industry Analyst
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of Aviation Analysis Division
EAS and Domestic Analysis Division

Dear Mr. Faulk:

As the Director of the Devils Lake Chamber of Commerce, I would like to express my strong support for the Skywest/United proposal for Essential Air Service at the Devils Lake Regional Airport for the next two years, beginning on July 1, 2020.

Skywest/United air service has provided Devils Lake with essential air service for the past 5 ½ years with record breaking numbers. The essential air service helps to keep rural economies vibrant and connected. The Denver hub has proved to be a huge success for our business climate in Devils Lake.

I am extremely grateful for the partnership between Skywest/United air service and the Devils Lake Regional Airport. I again, strongly recommend and support the Skywest/United proposal for the Essential Air Service so that our community gets the best possible air service it can provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paula J. Vistad". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Paula J. Vistad
Executive Director

BRAD BARTH

Executive Director
Forward Devils Lake Corporation

devils lake
Economic Development

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February 10, 2020

Scott Faulk
Transportation Industry Analyst
US Dept of Transportation
Office of Aviation Analysis
EAS & Domestic Analysis Division

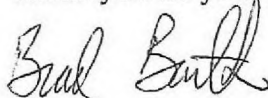
Dear Mr. Faulk:

As Executive Director of the Forward Devils Lake Corporation – the Economic Development organization for the City of Devils Lake and Ramsey County I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Essential Air Service proposal for the City of Devils Lake.

As the Economic Development Director for Devils Lake and Ramsey County these past two years I can say that I have learned that the daily air service provided by SkyWest Airlines for United has been a strong reason for our local economic development success. When I talk to businesses who are looking to relocate to the region – one of the key components of their decision is regular air service. I have learned that the daily flights help our region immensely. As in individual consumer and customer I can also speak to the importance of having the regularly air service as a father and grandfather as my children and grandchildren have all flown in and out of DVL multiple times.

I sincerely hope that the recommendation to extend SkyWest's contract for another two years is renewed – this decision would help Devils Lake and the entire Lake Region continue its Economic Development growth in the coming years.

Thank you for your consideration.



Brad Barth
Executive Director
Forward Devils Lake Corporation

devils lake
Economic Development



Scott Faulk
Transportation Industry Analyst
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of Aviation Analysis
EAS & Domestic Analysis Division

February 7, 2020

Dear Mr. Faulk,

SkyWest has been the service provider for airline travel for the past six years in Devils Lake. In that timeframe, they have built a reputation in our community for reliable service; serving our community with two flights a day, friendly staff, on-time service and comfortable and adequate seating. Before SkyWest, Devils Lake had service that was very unreliable and because of that we lost our passenger boarding to other airports. In the six years since SkyWest has been in our community, we have seen the number of passenger boarding numbers drastically increase. The airport has also added the necessary elements to accommodate jet service in and out of our airport.

For the Devils Lake Tourism Division, this reliable service and adequate seat numbers means better opportunity for us to bid on conferences and group travel and also helps us in recruiting businesses and a workforce. The airline also plays a vital role for Camp Grafton, bringing National Guard soldiers from all over the country in and out of our community for training at our training institute. The tourism division has increased their marketing dollars in the Denver area, highlighting the round-trip services and have seen an increase in traffic from the Colorado market. We hope to continue this momentum with the continued service from SkyWest.

It is my hope that you will strongly consider SkyWest for the Devils Lake Regional Airport Essential Air Service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Suzie Kenner".

Suzie Kenner
Executive Director, Devils Lake CVB

**RAMSEY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR**

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Commissioners

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Lucas Wakefield

February 4, 2020

Scott Faulk
Transportation Industry Analyst
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of Aviation Analysis
EAS & Domestic Analysis Division

Dear Mr. Faulk,

Devils Lake North Dakota is a small rural community in the northeastern part of the state where Essential Air Service is exactly that "Essential". SkyWest Airlines currently serves the Devils Lake Regional Airport with a 50-passenger jet that has proven to be a great addition to our community providing safe, reliable air service for area travelers.

For the reasons listed above and many more, the Ramsey County Commission would like to express our full support to SkyWest Airlines in their efforts to secure a renewal of their Essential Air Service Contract and continue to provide the excellent service to the Devils Lake Regional Airport.

Best regards,



Adam Leiphon, Chairman
Ramsey County Commission