



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

AUG 22 2011

Mr. Rob Adams
Vice President
Landrum & Brown
11279 Cornell Park Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45242.

Re: Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of American Eagle Airlines, Inc. Operations Specifications to Allow Scheduled Passenger Jet Service and Expansion of the Existing Passenger Terminal Structure at Watertown International Airport, Jefferson County, New York

Dear Mr. Adams:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Amendment of American Eagle Airlines, Inc. Operations Specifications and Expansion of the Existing Passenger Terminal at Watertown International Airport (ART), Jefferson County, New York. The EA evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed plan by American Eagle Airlines to service the ART with two round-trip flights per day Monday through Friday and one round-trip Saturday and Sunday between O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, Illinois. American Eagle proposes to operate these flights with Embraer EMB140 series regional jet aircraft. In order to accommodate the additional passengers generated from the proposed service, the existing passenger terminal structure at ART would be expanded 1,600 square feet to allow for additional secured seating, a larger Transportation Security Administration passenger screening area, and a larger baggage area. EPA concurs that the two actions will not have a significant effect on the environment.

EPA would like to use this opportunity to encourage the airport to utilize building practices that have multi-media benefits, including energy efficiency, water conservation, and healthy indoor air quality, such as using Energy Star rated appliances. We also suggest that you consult the Water Sense website (<http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/>) for plumbing fixtures to minimize water use. EPA also recommends construction practices that will lower emissions, such as retrofitting equipment with diesel particulate filters. You can learn more about clean diesel practices at <http://epa.gov/cleandiesel/technologies/retrofits.htm>.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this document. Should you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Lingard Knutson, of my staff, at (212) 637-3747.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marko Weitz".

for Grace Musumeci, Chief
Environmental Review Section