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### Methodology

This information will be collected in hard copy format, which is either mailed or transmitted by facsimile machine to the Foreign Service Institute.

Dated: June 9, 2008.

**Catherine J. Russell,**

*Executive Director, Foreign Service Institute, Department of State.*

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BILLING CODE 4710-34-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

#### Notice of Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart B (Formerly Subpart Q) During the Week Ending May 16, 2008

The following Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits were filed under Subpart B (formerly Subpart Q) of the Department of Transportation's Procedural Regulations. (See 14 CFR 301.201 *et seq.*)

The due date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope are set forth below for each application. Following the Answer period DOT may process the application by expedited procedures. Such procedures may consist of the adoption of a show-cause order, a tentative order, or in appropriate cases a final order without further proceedings.

*Docket Number:* DOT-OST-2008-0127.

*Date Filed:* May 14, 2008.

*Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion To Modify Scope:* May 30, 2008.

*Description:* Application of Kalitta Air, L.L.C. (Kalitta) for (1) a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing it to provide scheduled foreign air transportation of property and mail between a point or point(s) in the United States and a point or point(s) in China, via intermediate points, and beyond China to any point or points; (2) designation as the additional U.S.-flag all-cargo carrier permitted effective March 25, 2009; and (3) allocation of 10 of the 15 all-cargo frequencies that become available March 25, 2009.

*Docket Number:* DOT-OST-2008-0162.

*Date Filed:* May 15, 2008.

*Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope:* June 5, 2008.

*Description:* Joint Application of Delta Air Lines, Inc. ("Delta"), Northwest Airlines, Inc. ("Northwest") and Northwest's wholly-owned subsidiaries, Compass Airlines, Inc. ("Compass") and Mesaba Aviation, Inc. ("Mesaba") (collectively, the "Joint Applicants") requesting that the Department transfer all of the certificates of public convenience and necessity, exemptions, statements of authorizations, frequency allocations, designations and related authorities held by Northwest, Compass, and Mesaba. The Joint Applicants also request the Department's approval of the final transfer of international authority that will occur upon the ultimate merger of Delta and Northwest.

**Renee V. Wright,**

*Program Manager, Docket Operations, Federal Register Liaison.*

[FR Doc. E8-14127 Filed 6-20-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### Surface Transportation Environment and Planning Cooperative Research Program (STEP)

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Section 5207 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) established the Surface Transportation Environment and Planning Cooperative Research Program (STEP). The general objective of the STEP is to improve understanding of the complex relationship between surface transportation, planning, and the environment. SAFETEA-LU provides \$16.875 million per year for fiscal years (FY) 2006-2009 to implement this new cooperative research program. The STEP is the primary source of funds to conduct all Federal Highway Administration research on planning and environmental issues. In addition, Congress mandated several special studies and STEP will be the funding source for those projects.

The purpose of this notice is to announce revisions to the STEP implementation strategy for FY 2009 and to request suggested lines of research for the FY 2009 STEP via the STEP Web site at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/step/index.htm>.

**DATES:** Suggestions for lines of research should be submitted to the STEP Web site on or before September 22, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Felicia Young, Office of Interstate and Border Planning, (202) 366-1263, [Felicia.young@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:Felicia.young@fhwa.dot.gov); or Wil Baccus, Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 366-1396; Federal Highway Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Electronic Access**

An electronic copy of this notice may be downloaded from the Office of the **Federal Register's** home page at <http://www.archives.gov> and the Government Printing Office's Web site at <http://www.access.gpo.gov>.

**Background**

Section 5207 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (Pub. L. 109-59, Aug. 10, 2005), established the Surface Transportation Environment and Planning Cooperative Research Program. The STEP is a new cooperative research program for environment and planning research created in section 507 of Title 23, United States Code, Highways (23 U.S.C. 507). The general objective of the STEP is to improve understanding of the complex relationship between surface transportation, planning, and the environment.

SAFETEA-LU established five priority areas for STEP research. These priority funding areas include: (1) Develop more accurate models for evaluating transportation control measures and system designs for use by State and local governments to meet environmental requirements; (2) improve understanding of transportation demand factors; (3) develop indicators of economic, social, and environmental performance of transportation systems to facilitate alternatives analysis; (4) meet additional priorities as determined by the Secretary in the strategic planning process identified in section 5208 of SAFETEA-LU; and (5) refine the scope and research emphases through outreach and in consultation with stakeholders.

Congestion reduction also has been identified as a priority research area for the strategic planning process identified in section 5208 of SAFETEA-LU and is a key element of other STEP priority research areas. Therefore, in addition to the aforementioned research priorities, the STEP will also address research