The city’s letter, explaining the rationale for this proposed change, is included in the Supplementary Information section below.

The Department’s jurisdiction over this application is based upon Executive Order 11423 of August 16, 1968, as amended, and Article 1 of the 1996 permit, which states that the permit “may be amended by the Secretary of State or the Secretary’s delegate at will or upon proper application therefor * *.” As provided in E.O. 11423, the Department is circulating this application to relevant Federal and State agencies for review and comment.

Under E.O. 11423, the Department has the responsibility to determine, taking into account input from these agencies and other stakeholders, whether the proposed amendment of this Presidential permit would be in the U.S. national interest.

DATES: Interested members of the public are invited to submit written comments regarding this application on or before July 28, 2010 to Stewart Tuttle, U.S.-Mexico Border Affairs Coordinator, via e-mail at WHA–BorderAffairs@state.gov, or by mail at WHA/MEX—Room 3909, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stewart Tuttle, U.S.-Mexico Border Affairs Coordinator, via e-mail at WHA–BorderAffairs@state.gov; by phone at 202–647–6356; or by mail at WHA/MEX—Room 3909, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is the text of the application that Daniel Valenzuela, City Manager, Eagle Pass, Texas, submitted to the Department on June 1, 2010.

Begin text.

This communication is in reference to removing the restrictions of receiving rental payments for the temporary inspection facilities in Article 10 of the Presidential Permit (No. 96–01) issued by the Department of State on April 12, 1996, for a second international bridge in Eagle Pass, Texas. Currently, Article 10 of the permit requires the City of Eagle Pass (permittee) to provide the temporary inspection facilities at “no cost” to the Federal Government.

As the permittee, and on behalf of the taxpayers of Eagle Pass, we are formally requesting that the Article 10 (Presidential Permit No. 96–01) restriction be removed so that an agreeable rental rate can be established for the temporary inspection facilities. The Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) issued by the Department of State on April 12, 1996, and in support of the permit issued on the same date, anticipated the need for the temporary facilities lasting between five and ten years. The current “no cost” lease has now been in effect for ten years and there is presently no timeline for the construction of the permanent inspection facilities. In addition, we believe that a change to the Presidential Permit will be a positive step toward helping develop a long-term solution to the past disagreements between GSA and the City of Eagle Pass. This solution will initiate progress towards construction of permanent facilities that will strengthen border security and improve working conditions for CBP officers.

Based on the anticipated ongoing need for use of the temporary facilities, and in fairness to the taxpayers of Eagle Pass, we believe that the City should now have the ability to negotiate with the Federal Government an agreeable rental rate for the continued use of these facilities. Most municipalities and private-sector owners of inspection facilities along the Texas-Mexico border are permitted the collection rents for improvements provided for use by the Federal Government. Furthermore, we understand that no other Presidential Permit contains a similar restriction.

We understand that the U.S. Department of State is willing, acting under Article 1 of the permit, in coordination with CBP and other Federal agencies, and after providing an opportunity for public comment, to consider modifying Article 10. The City of Eagle Pass respectfully asks to be consistently informed and updated on this process with written correspondence.

It is the City’s sincerest hope that an amendment to the Presidential Permit may be handled in an expeditious manner; we thank you for your consideration in this most important issue for our community.

End text.

Dated: June 29, 2010.

Alex Lee, Director, Office of Mexican Affairs, Department of State.

BILLING CODE 4710–29–P
received Federal assistance, from certain Federal requirements in connection with the privatization of the airport by sale or lease to a private party. Specifically, the Administrator may exempt the sponsor from all or part of the requirements to use airport revenues for airport-related purposes, to pay back a portion of Federal grants upon the sale or lease of an airport, and to return airport property deeded by the Federal Government upon transfer of the airport. The Administrator is also authorized to exempt the private purchaser or lessee from the requirement to use all airport revenues for airport-related purposes, to the extent necessary to permit the purchaser or lessee to earn compensation from the operations of the airport.

On September 16, 1997, the Federal Aviation Administration issued a notice of procedures to be used in applications for exemption under the Airport Privatization Pilot Program (62 FR 48693). A request for participation in the Pilot Program must be initiated by the filing of either a preliminary or final application for exemption with the FAA.

Gwinnett County submitted a preliminary application to the Airport Privatization Pilot Program for Gwinnett County Airport Briscoe Field on April 26, 2010; the preliminary application is accepted for review, with a filing date of April 26, 2010. The County may select a private operator, negotiate an agreement and submit a final application to the FAA for exemption.

If FAA accepts the final application for review, the application will be made available for public review and comment for a sixty-day period.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 28, 2010.

Randall S. Fiertz,
Director, Office of Airport Compliance and Field Operations.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[DOCKET NO. 2009–1144]

Airport Privatization Pilot Program

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Receipt and Acceptance for Review: Preliminary Application for Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport (SJU), San Juan, Puerto Rico.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has completed its review of the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport International Airport (SJU) preliminary application for participation in the airport privatization pilot program received under 49 U.S.C. 47134. The preliminary application is accepted for review, with a filing date of December 1, 2009. The Puerto Rico Ports Authority, the airport sponsor, may select a private operator, negotiate an agreement and submit a final application to the FAA for exemption under the pilot program. 49 U.S.C. 47134 establishes an airport privatization pilot program and authorizes the Department of Transportation to grant exemptions from certain Federal statutory and regulatory requirements for up to five airport privatization projects. The application procedures require the FAA to publish a notice in the Federal Register after review of a preliminary application. The FAA must publish a notice of receipt of the final application in the Federal Register for public review and comment for a sixty-day period. The SJU preliminary application is available for public review at http://www.regulations.gov. The docket number is FAA Docket Number 2009–1144.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kevin C. Willis (202–267–8741) Airport Compliance Division, ACO–100, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20591.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction and Background

Title 49 of the U.S. Code 47134 authorizes the Secretary of Transportation, and through delegation, the FAA Administrator, to exempt a sponsor of a public use airport that has received Federal assistance, from certain Federal requirements in connection with the privatization of the airport by sale or lease to a private party. Specifically, the Administrator may exempt the sponsor from all or part of the requirements to use airport revenues for airport-related purposes, to pay back a portion of Federal grants upon the sale or lease of an airport, and to return airport property deeded by the Federal Government upon transfer of the airport. The Administrator is also authorized to exempt the private purchaser or lessee from the requirement to use all airport revenues for airport-related purposes, to the extent necessary to permit the purchaser or lessee to earn compensation from the operations of the airport.

On September 16, 1997, the Federal Aviation Administration issued a notice of procedures to be used in applications for exemption under Airport Privatization Pilot Program (62 FR 48693). A request for participation in the Pilot Program must be initiated by the filing of either a preliminary or final application for exemption with the FAA.

The Puerto Rico Ports Authority submitted a preliminary application to the Airport Privatization Pilot Program for Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport on December 1, 2009; the preliminary application is accepted for review, with a filing date of December 1, 2009. The Authority may select a private operator, negotiate an agreement and submit a final application to the FAA for exemption.

If FAA accepts the final application for review, the application will be made available for public review and comment for a sixty-day period.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 28, 2010.

Randall S. Fiertz,
Director, Office of Airport Compliance and Field Operations.