



April 30, 2012

Mr. Mike Thompson
Vice President, Market Development
SkyWest Airlines
444 South River Road
St. George, Utah 84790

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Greetings from Blaine County, Idaho, home of Sun Valley Resort and Friedman Memorial Airport.

We would like to extend to you our support for FAA approval of the operation of the Canadair RJ700 into Friedman as a replacement aircraft for the reliable but aging Brasilia EMB120. Since the community has had scheduled commercial jet air service in the past, a categorical exclusion is favored over an environmental assessment.

We support this for the following reasons:

- The RJ700 has over twice the capacity of the EMB120 resulting in the same number of passengers with fewer operations.
- The RJ700 has a modest noise profile, especially on approach, as compared to other jets.
- The CRJ NextGen aircraft's lightweight and highly efficient aerodynamics provide the best fuel burn and lowest greenhouse gas emissions in its class.
- The RJ700 has proven to be a reliable and safe aircraft.
- The RJ700 is smaller in size than the Bombardier Q400 currently operating at Friedman.
- Many people feel more comfortable and safer traveling on a turbofan as opposed to a turboprop aircraft.

If we can be of any assistance in the support of SkyWest Airlines, please to not hesitate to ask!

Best Regards,


Dewayne Briscoe, Mayor, City of Sun Valley


Randy Hall, Mayor, City of Ketchum


Fritz Haemmerle, Mayor, City of Hailey


Angelle McCleary, Chairman,
Board of Blaine County Commissioners