Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

Re: OPERATING LIMITATIONS AT JOHN F. KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Docket: FAA-2007-29320

Action: Notice of Targets for Scheduling Reduction Meeting

On October 16, 2007, the FAA issued a notice convening a scheduling reduction meeting at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 41722(c). The notice is on display at the Federal Register and will be published on October 22, 2007. A copy is available on the FAA website at http://www.faa.gov and in Docket FAA-2007-29320. The Administrator has established the following targets for the purpose of the meeting. The targets include both scheduled and unscheduled operations, up to four unscheduled operations per hour. Regularly conducted air carrier flights, such as cargo and charter flights, will be considered as scheduled operations even if they do not appear in the Official Airline Guide. The targets apply to operations from 6:00 a.m. through 9:59 p.m. local time, daily.

The total operations target is 80 operations per hour, except for the 3 p.m. through 7:59 p.m. hours, when it is 81 total operations. The 30-minute maximum is 44 operations and the 15-minute maximum is 24 operations. Since the best runway configurations at JFK reflect either two arrival runways and one departure runway, or two departure runways and one arrival runway, the mix of arrival and departure demand is important to achieve maximum aircraft throughput given the predominant runway configurations. Therefore, additional limits on arrivals and departures are necessary to balance demand. The number of arrivals or departures may not exceed 53 in any 60-minute period, 29 in any 30-minute period, or 16 in any 15-minute period.

For this analysis, the period from July 2005 through July 2007 was reviewed. The hourly value for each day reviewed was the higher of 1) actual aircraft throughput or 2) the number of operations that air traffic control established for each hour. In this way, the capacity was adjusted upward to consider periods when the actual throughput was less than the available capacity. The average adjusted capacity increased during the two year review period. During the July 2005 through June 2006 period, the average adjusted airport capacity was 74 operations per hour. The period from July 2005 through July 2007 averaged 77 operations. The period July 2006 through June 2007 averaged 79 operations. During the period from February 2007 through July 2007, the average adjusted capacity was 81 operations per hour.

Robert A. Sturgell Acting Administrator