



February 1, 2008

Document Management Facility
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
West Building Ground Floor, W12-140
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Docket No. FAA-2008-0036

On behalf of more than 414,000 general aviation aircraft owners and pilots, and more than 8,000 general aviation business aircraft operators, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) and the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) support the Air Transport Association request for more time to review and comment on the Department of Transportation's (DOT) proposed amendments to the Policy Regarding Airport Rates and Charges.

The DOT proposal raises serious questions about the long-term strategy to be used for traffic management at airports where airline operations are creating congestion and delays. Many of the participants in the New York Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC) opposed DOT proposals to pursue congestion pricing in the New York City area, where air traffic congestion is at its worst. It was disappointing when the Department proposed the rates and charges policy changes for New York City or any other congested airport in the country.

Our organizations need additional time to research and gather data on the potential impact the policy change will have from our respective general aviation perspectives. We request an extension of 30 days from the deadline for comments, and would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request.

Sincerely,

Phil Boyer
President
AOPA

Edward M. Bolen
President and CEO
NBAA