



U. S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Great Lakes Region
Illinois, Indiana, Michigan,
Minnesota, North Dakota
Ohio, South Dakota, and
Wisconsin

2300 E Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018

April 15, 2004

Ms. Rosemarie Andolino
Executive Director, O'Hare Modernization Program
City of Chicago, Department of Aviation
P. O. Box 66142
Chicago, IL 60666

Dear Ms. Andolino:

A critical part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) review of the City's O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) is the completion of the required Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Our offices have worked together to develop a near-term schedule covering the technical analysis phase of our EIS work. It is now time to formalize the projected schedule our staffs have developed for the balance of the EIS.

We know that you had hoped for a Spring 2005 completion date. However, after an extensive review of progress made so far and the procedural steps that lie ahead, we believe the following represents a realistic schedule. The critical EIS milestones are as follows:

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| • Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS | February 2005 |
| • Public Hearings on the Draft EIS | March 2005 |
| • Close of Comments | April 2005 |
| • Notice of Availability for the Final EIS | July 2005 |
| • Signed EIS Record of Decision | September 2005 |

To meet these dates, we must receive quality deliverables from the City's Consulting Team, our Third Party Contractor and FAA personnel. Key regulatory agencies must also meet fixed review and comment time commitments. Sharing this schedule with other agencies involved in the EIS will help us coordinate FAA's work and help ensure an effective integration of our work.

We believe these milestones represent a streamlined environmental process. Should you have any questions concerning this information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Barry D. Cooper
Manager, Chicago Area Modernization Program Office