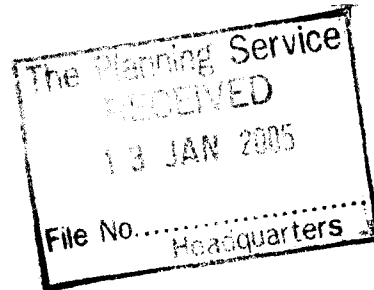


BOMBARDIER

11 January 2005
mjr/dw/1016

Mr CH Baird
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Dear Mr Baird

Belfast City Airport – Increase in Passengers

With reference to your letter of 19th November 2004, I wish to express Bombardier's wholehearted support for the requested increase in the number of seats for sale at Belfast City Airport.

As Northern Ireland's largest manufacturer with 5,600 employees, we also have some 800 approved suppliers throughout GB and Northern Ireland. As a result of our activities, we have significant travel needs for our employees to access destinations across Europe and North America, as well as supplier and customers visiting the company.

As the provider of 12% of Northern Ireland's manufacturing exports, and given that all our customers are overseas, air travel is key to our business and we depend heavily on reliable, flexible air travel in and out of Northern Ireland. We have a substantial travel budget with an ever-increasing number of personnel travelling overseas via Heathrow, Gatwick and other mainland hubs. We would therefore very much welcome any development of direct routes to European destinations from the City Airport.

We also understand the need for a healthy competitive environment in Northern Ireland between its airports. The proposals are also important for the wider business community, in particular with the developments in our political processes in mind, which could give rise to more traffic from both the tourism and business sectors.

I hope you find the above useful in your evaluations.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Ryan
Vice-president and General Manager
Bombardier Aerospace, Belfast