

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C.

Issued by the Department of Transportation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2022

Served: March 2, 2022

In the matter of the navigation of all Russian foreign civil aircraft operators in the United States and the scheduled U.S. services of the following Russian foreign air carriers:

PUBLIC JOINT STOCK COMPANY AEROFLOT RUSSIAN AIRLINES

AIRBRIDGECARGO AIRLINES LIMITED

JOINT STOCK COMPANY AIRCOMPANY YAKUTIA

LLC NORD WIND

and

AZUR AIR, L.L.C.

**Docket DOT-OST-2018-0073** 

# NOTIFICATION, ORDER DISAPPROVING SCHEDULES, AND ORDER SUSPENDING THE AUTHORITY OF RUSSIAN FOREIGN CIVIL AIRCRAFT OPERATORS TO NAVIGATE IN THE UNITED STATES

#### **Summary**

The U.S. Department of Transportation (the Department) is suspending, as specified below and until further Order or Notice of the Department, the existing, proposed, and prospective scheduled passenger and all-cargo operations of all foreign air carriers of the Russian Federation (Russia) to and/or from the United States.

The captioned carriers represent those Russian carriers that hold economic authority from the Department to conduct scheduled combination and/or all-cargo service to/from the United States. With respect to their scheduled services, effective immediately except as specified in the decision section below, all of their existing, proposed, and prospective schedules are now suspended until further Order or Notice of the Department.

In addition, by this Order we suspend, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §41703(b)(1), effective immediately except as specified in the decision section below, and until further Order or Notice of the Department, the authority of all Russian foreign civil aircraft operators to navigate aircraft in the United States.

With respect to charter operations by Russian carriers, the captioned carriers, as well as the Russian carriers Volga-Dnepr Airlines LLC and LLC IKAR, hold economic authority from the Department to conduct charter services, combination and/or all-cargo in nature, to/from the United States. While all potential charter operations by licensed Russian air carriers to/from the United States are already subject to prior approval by the Department, in light of the 49 U.S.C. §41703(b)(1) action we are taking in this Order, such charter operations shall hereby all be deemed disapproved effective immediately and until further Order or Notice of the Department.

#### **Background**

On March 1, 2022, we were requested by the Executive Office of the President to take action necessary to ensure that foreign air carriers of Russia are no longer permitted to conduct services to/from the United States and/or navigate foreign civil aircraft in the United States. This action was directed by President Biden in response to Russia's further invasion of Ukraine.

#### Decision

In the circumstances presented and in particular in light of the determination by the President, we conclude that operations to/from the United States and within the United States by foreign air carriers of Russia are not in the public interest. Accordingly, we are suspending all scheduled passenger and all-cargo air services operated by Russian foreign air carriers to/from the United States. We will effectuate this suspension of scheduled services under the 14 C.F.R. Part 213 Phase 2 process by disapproving, effective immediately except as provided for below in this section, all existing/proposed schedules filed in this Docket by the above-captioned foreign air carriers in response to Order 2018-5-36, until further Order or Notice of the Department. In addition, effective immediately, we disapprove all prospective proposed schedules that may be subsequently filed by the above-captioned foreign air carriers in response to Order 2018-5-36.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See note 4 below. We note that, in the event that any Russian carrier may be operating a scheduled service for which it has not filed a schedule with the Department as directed by Order 2018-5-36, such operations are also suspended by this Order, effective immediately.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For reasons set forth in detail in a previous action, the Department has already imposed 14 C.F.R. Part 213 Phase 1 schedule filing requirements on certain Russian air carriers (Public Joint Stock Company Aeroflot Airlines,

Service under all proposed and prospective proposed schedules shall not be inaugurated. *See* 14 C.F.R. Part 213.3(d).

Furthermore, for the same reasons specified above, we have determined pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §41703(b)(1) that the public interest also calls for suspension, effective immediately except as provided for below, of the authority of all Russian foreign civil aircraft operators to navigate aircraft in the United States until further Order or Notice of the Department.<sup>3</sup>

We acknowledge that there may be Russian foreign air carriers and/or foreign civil aircraft operators in the midst of various types of scheduled, charter, or other operations in the United States at the time this action is taken. Accordingly, affected operations already inflight en route are exempt from this Order until 2100L EST on March 2, 2022. Carriers and/or operators with aircraft on the ground in the United States may request authority from the Department to conduct the non-revenue ferry operation that will be necessary for their aircraft to depart the United States. Such requests should be directed to <a href="mailto:schedulefiling@dot.gov">schedulefiling@dot.gov</a>. Carriers and/or operators seeking exemptions for humanitarian and/or search and rescue operations may also direct such requests to <a href="mailto:schedulefiling@dot.gov">schedulefiling@dot.gov</a>. The Department will consider all aforementioned requests on a case-by-case basis, and carrier/operators must explicitly receive affirmative Department approval before conducting such operations.

#### ACCORDINGLY,

- 1. We disapprove all of the existing and proposed schedules for combination and all-cargo services filed by Public Joint Stock Company Aeroflot Airlines, AirBridgeCargo Airlines Limited, Joint Stock Company Aircompany Yakutia, LLC Nord Wind, and Azur Air, L.L.C. pursuant to Order 2018-5-36;
- 2. We disapprove, until further Order or Notice of the Department, all prospective proposed schedules that may be subsequently filed by the above-captioned foreign air carriers in response to Order 2018-5-36;
- 3. We suspend, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §41703(b)(1), the authority of all Russian foreign civil aircraft operators to navigate aircraft in the United States and until further Order or Notice of the Department;

AirBridgeCargo Airlines Limited, and Joint Stock Company Aircompany Yakutia) that were licensed at that time to conduct certain scheduled U.S. services. See Order 2018-5-36, issued May 23, 2018, in the present docket. We subsequently licensed two additional Russian carriers, LLC Nord Wind and Azur Air, L.L.C, to conduct certain scheduled U.S. operations. The authority awarded to those carriers was also made subject to the provisions of Order 2018-5-36. See Orders 2020-10-12 and 2021-5-5, respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "United States" means the States of the United States, the District of Columbia, and the territories and possessions of the United States, including the territorial sea and the overlying airspace. See 49 U.S.C. §40102(a)(46).

- 4. The disapprovals specified in Ordering Paragraphs 1 and 3 shall be effective immediately, with the exception of the inflight enroute exemption in place for affected carriers and/or operators until 2100L EST as specified in the text above;<sup>4</sup>
- 5. The disapproval specified in Ordering Paragraph 2 shall be effective immediately;
- 6. We direct affected carriers and/or operators to file requests for non-revenue ferry, humanitarian, and/or search and rescue operations as specified in the text above;
- 7. We may amend, modify, or revoke this Order at any time and without hearing; and
- 8. We will serve this Order on Public Joint Stock Company Aeroflot Airlines; AirBridgeCargo Airlines Limited; Joint Stock Company Aircompany Yakutia; LLC Nord Wind; Azur Air, L.L.C.; all other licensed foreign air carriers of Russia; all certificated U.S. carriers operating large aircraft; the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Washington, D.C.; the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation; the Department of State; the Transportation Security Administration; and the Federal Aviation Administration.

By:

### **CAROL A. (ANNIE) PETSONK**

Deputy Assistant Secretary Aviation and International Affairs

(SEAL)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In accordance with 14 C.F.R. §213.3(d), the Department has obtained affirmative Presidential approval to issue this Order with immediate effectiveness.