

CHRISTIAN COUNTY COMMISSION

100 W. Church Street, Room 100
Ozark, Missouri 65721
Phone: 417-581-2112 • Fax: 417-581-5924

Lou Lapaglia
Presiding Commissioner

Bill Barnett
Western Commissioner

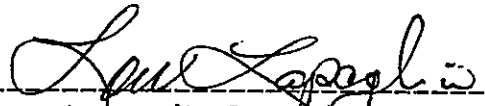
Tom Huff
Eastern Commissioner

January 25, 2011


Mr. Gary Cyr
Director of Aviation
Springfield-Branson National Airport
2300 North Airport Boulevard Suite 100
Springfield, MO 65802

Dear Mr. Cyr,

The purpose of this letter is to document the support of Christian County for inclusion within the service area of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) #225. We understand this means the grantee, the City of Springfield Airport Board, will be able to apply to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board for authority to serve sites located within this county based on businesses' trade-related needs. We also note the zone will be made available on a uniform basis to companies within this county, in a manner consistent with the legal requirement that each FTZ be operated as a public utility.



Lou Lapaglia-Presiding Commissioner



Bill Barnett-Western Commissioner

Tom Huff-Eastern Commissioner



Springfield-Branson
NATIONAL AIRPORT

2300 n airport blvd ste 100
springfield missouri 65802
p 417.868.0500 f 417.868.0501

January 14, 2011

Honorable Lou Lapaglia
Presiding Commissioner
100 West Church Street Room 100
Ozark, Missouri, 65721-9998

Re: Foreign-Trade Zone ("FTZ") Application

Dear Honorable Lou Lapaglia, Presiding Commissioner,

As you may be aware the City of Springfield, MO Airport Board ("Grantee") holds a grant of authority from the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board to operate and maintain FTZ #225. Currently the only FTZ site is located at the Springfield-Branson National Airport. FTZ designation allows companies involved in international trade to take advantage of Customs duty savings and logistics benefits related to importing and exporting. These benefits are used by companies across the United States in a great number of industries including manufacturing and distribution. FTZ benefits help U.S.-based companies level the playing field with their foreign competitors from a Customs perspective, and in turn this helps keep the communities in which they reside strong in terms of jobs, investment and export promotion.

The Springfield Airport Board is now moving forward with an initiative to better utilize its FTZ designation for both the City of Springfield and surrounding communities. We are in the process of preparing an application that would reorganize our FTZ project under the Alternative Site Framework ("ASF"). ASF is a program that was recently developed by the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board to allow Grantees to better manage their FTZ projects by providing faster and simplified access to FTZ benefits. Part of the ASF model involves establishing a service area within which the Grantee will agree to sponsor FTZ sites going forward. Once the service area is determined and the application is approved, any company in the defined service area can access FTZ benefits quickly and cost effectively by a minor boundary modification. Under the current set up of the FTZ project it is often expensive and time consuming for companies to apply for and achieve FTZ designation at their specific manufacturing or distribution facilities.

After thoughtful consideration, and on the basis of local industrial activity trends, we would like to invite Christian County to be included in the service area of FTZ #225 along with 21 other counties (see attached list of invited counties). All of these counties are eligible for inclusion in the ASF application based on the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board's regulations.

We will need a concurrence letter from Christian County in order to include it in the proposed service area. We have attached a template concurrence letter for your convenience. If you agree to be included in the ASF application please complete the letter, print it on letterhead and send the signed

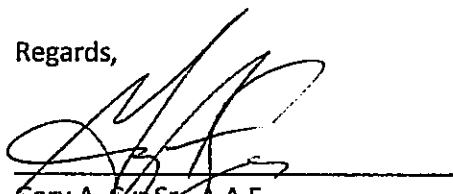
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original to our office at the address listed below. Inclusion of Christian County in the ASF application places no burden, financial or otherwise, on Christian County until or unless the county seeks to make use of the program in the future. It simply expedites and lessens the cost of accessing FTZ designation in your county should an existing or new company decide to use it. Companies that decide to use the designation will contract directly with the Grantee of FTZ #225, the City of Springfield Airport Board, for proper oversight and use of the program as is required by the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board.

We have included additional information about the benefits of the FTZ program to importers and exporters. Please feel free to contact me at 417.868.0500 or our FTZ consultant, Brandi Hanback, at 410.897.4858 if you have any questions. We would be happy to discuss your questions in detail.

We hope to file our ASF application with the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board by March 1, 2011. To facilitate this process please have your original concurrence letters to our office by February 4, 2011. Thank you for your consideration of this matter. We look forward to working with you.

Regards,



Gary A. Cyr Sr., A.A.E.
Director of Aviation
Springfield-Branson National Airport

Foreign-Trade Zones Benefits Overview

Duty Deferral: Imported products admitted to the FTZ are not entered into the Customs territory until their withdrawal from the FTZ. Therefore, users obtain a cash flow savings by deferring Customs duties until the merchandise leaves the FTZ for consumption in the U.S.

Duty Elimination: Imported products admitted to the FTZ and subsequently destroyed in the FTZ or exported from the FTZ are not subject to Customs duties.

Duty Reduction: Imported products admitted to the FTZ can be placed in a special status that allows the merchandise to be classified and appraised in its condition as withdrawn from the FTZ. For manufacturers this means that an imported component with a higher rate of duty can be classified and appraised in its finished product form, with a potentially lower rate of duty, thereby reducing the amount of duty owed.

Zone-to-Zone Transfer: If the company utilizes more than one FTZ, merchandise may be transferred from zone to zone in order to extend the deferral benefits further. This benefit can be implemented up and down the supply chain by incorporating the activities of suppliers and customers.

Direct Delivery and Weekly Entry/Export: From a just-in-time inventory perspective, the FTZ program offers significant benefits. Users may obtain permission from Customs to move merchandise directly from the port of arrival to the FTZ avoiding delays at congested ports and minimizing exams. On the outgoing side, users may obtain permission to ship unrestricted weekly (24 hours per day, 7 days per week) based on an estimate approved by Customs before the start of the business week. Broker fees and merchandise processing fees paid to Customs may be significantly reduced by filing one entry per week versus daily entries or one per shipment. Goods move in and out of the facility on an expedited basis allowing for a seamless supply chain from vendor to customer without maintaining unnecessarily high levels of inventory.

Production Equipment: Certain duty deferral and reduction benefits also apply on production equipment admitted to the FTZ for assembly and testing prior to use in production.

Contact: Brandi Hanback at Rockefeller Group Foreign Trade Zone Services
410.897.4858 * bhanback@rockgrp.com

Cherry Warren	Barry County	700 Main St. Ste 2 Cassville Mo 65625-1467	417-847-4628
Mike Davis	Barton County	1004 Gulf St. Rm 102 Lamar MO 64759-1498	417-682-4110
Jesse Watts	Cedar County	113 South St Stockton MO 65785-8531	417-276-6700
Lou Lapaglia	Christian County	100 West Church St RM 100 Ozark MO 65721-9998	417-581-2112
Randy Daniel	Dade County	300 W Water St Greenfield Mo 65661-1351	417-637-2724
Kevin Sharpe	Dallas County	PO Box 436 Buffalo MO 65622-0436	417-345-2632
Larry Pueppke	Douglas County	PO BOX 398 Ava MO 65608- 0398	417-683-6080
Jim Viebrock	Greene County	933 N. Robberson Springfield Mo 65802	417-868-4112
Mark Collins	Howell County	35 Court SQ STE 302 West Plains MO 65775	417-256-3872
John Bartosh	Jasper County	302 S. Main St. Carthage MO 64836-1621	417-358-0421
Danny Rhoades	Laclede County	200 N. Adams Ave Lebanon MO 65536-3099	417-532-4897
Sam Goodman	Lawrence County	#1 Courthouse SQ. Ste 101 Mount Vernon MO 65721- 1444	417-466-3666
Keith Lindquist	McDonald County	PO Box 665 Pineville MO 64856-0665	417-223-2842
Marilyn Ruestman	Newton County	101 S. Wood St. Ste 201 Neosho MO 64850-1860	417-451-8223
David Morrison	Ozark County	PO Box 416 Gainesville MO 65655-0416	417-679-4096
Denzil Roberts	Polk County	102 E. Broadway Rm 12 Bolivar Mo 65613	417-326-2922

Dennis Wood	Stone County	PO Box 19 Galena Mo 65656-0019	417-357-8141
Ron Houseman	Taney County	PO Box 1086 Forsyth MO 65653-1086	417-546-7204
Fred Stenger	Texas County	210 N. Grand Ave Ste 311 Houston MO 65483-1226	417-967-3222
Bonnie McCord	Vernon County	100 W. Cherry St Nevada MO 64772-3360	417-448-2505
Paul Ipock	Webster County	101 S. Crittenden Rm 11 Marshfield MO 65706-1641	417-859-4250
Zack Williams	Wright County	PO Box 98 Hartville MO 65667-0098	417-741-6113



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² ALSO ADMITTED IN KANSAS
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January 21, 2011

Christian County Commission
100 W. Church Street, Room 100
Ozark, MO 65721

RE: **Foreign-Trade Zone**

Dear Commissioners:

You may have recently received a letter from Gary Cyr, Director of Aviation at the Springfield-Branson National Airport pertaining to his interest in expanding the area around the airport for a U.S. Foreign Trade Zone. I have looked into the matter as well as spoke personally to Gary Cyr regarding the benefits and the potential costs, if any, to the County if we elect to be included in the alternate site framework program.

It is my opinion, based upon Mr. Cyr's representations, that there will be no cost or liability to the County if we elect to be included within the service area of the Foreign Trade Zone No. 255. Mr. Cyr assures me that the airport will absorb all the costs necessary to form and utilized the foreign trade zone.

Accordingly, I have no objection to the County Commission signing the form letter Mr. Cyr has attached to his correspondence, if the County Commission elects to participate in the ACF Application.

Very truly yours,

OFFICE OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY COUNSELOR

John W. Housley

JWH:jjj
Enclosure

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RECEIVED
JAN 24 2011
COUNTY COMMISSION