



January 29th, 2018

To whom it may concern,

ARBOS Specialty Vehicles Spirit of Equest is currently at the Altoona Bus Testing and Research Center undergoing FTA testing for 10 year 350,000 miles. Anticipated completion is 2nd quarter 2018 pending weather delays that may occur during the durability portion of the testing.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry Hines", written over a horizontal line.

BARRY HINES

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U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

September 22, 2017

Barry R. Hines
Vice President of Engineering
ARBOC Specialty Vehicles LLC
51165 Greenfield Parkway
Middlebury, IN 46540
(via email: bhines@arbocsv.com)

Dear Mr. Hines:

This is in response to your letter dated August 1, 2017, in which you asked the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) authorize testing at the FTA Bus Testing Facility of the Spirit of Equest bus model manufactured by ARBOC to comply with requirements of the Bus Testing Regulation (49 CFR Part 665). Your letter, and verbal remarks when you showed the bus at FTA on September 6, state that:

- The Spirit of Equest is being submitted for full testing in the 10-year/350,000-mile service life category.
- The low-floor bus chassis is designed and built by ARBOC (VIN: 1A9D01123H6925456). It uses a rear-mounted Cummins B6.7L CNG engine and Allison 2200 PTS transmission in a "V-Drive" rear wheel drive configuration.
- Key dimensions are:
 - Overall length: 29 feet, 8 inches
 - Wheelbase: 191 inches
 - Body width: 100 inches
- The weight and passenger ratings of the test bus are:
 - Front axle weight rating: 9,880 pounds
 - Rear axle weight rating: 16,120 pounds
 - Gross vehicle weight rating: 26,000 pounds
 - Seated passenger capacity: 23 (or 17 and two wheelchairs)
 - Standee passenger capacity: 8 (or 6 with two wheelchairs)
- ARBOC has provided evidence that the bus complies with NHTSA requirements at 49 CFR Parts 565, 566, 567, and (*if applicable*) 568.

- ARBOC has certified that the bus complies with all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS).
- ARBOC has submitted its Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goals to FTA.
- ARBOC has represented that the bus to be tested is a production-ready build of the Spirit of Equest. The bus to be tested is therefore substantially fabricated and assembled using the techniques, tooling, and materials that will be used in production of subsequent buses of this model.
- The manufacturing points of origin of major components of the test bus are:
 - Bus structure – USA
 - Front axle and brakes – Germany
 - Rear axle and brakes – Germany
 - Propulsion/auxiliary power system – USA
 - Fuel cylinders – USA or Canada
 - Fuel system, complete – USA
 - Seats – USA
 - Air conditioning – Germany
 - Air conditioning compressor – Japan

We have reviewed your request and accompanying documentation and based on the information you provided, **FTA authorizes the ARBOC Spirit of Equest to begin full testing in the 10-year/350,000-mile service life category.** The Altoona Bus Testing Center will need a copy of this letter in order to begin testing.

Sincerely,



Marcel Belanger
Bus Testing Program Manager
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202-366-0725

Ecc: David Klinikowski, Director, Bus Research and Testing Program
Jennifer Lego / Jennifer Noll, Altoona Bus Research and Testing Center