AIP CANADA SUPPLEMENT 046/2025

GANDER FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION - VOICE COMMUNICATIONS FOR OCEANIC ROUTE AMENDMENTS PRIOR TO OCEANIC ENTRY

IMPORTANT: This AIP SUP is for situational awareness only. NOTAMs are published in conjunction and take precedence

Purpose of the Supplement

The purpose of this Supplement is to inform air operators that due to ATC workload and pilot confusion regarding oceanic route clearance changes issued through CPDLC, Gander Flight Information Region (CDQX FIR), Gander Domestic controllers will be issuing oceanic route amendments via VHF voice communications in lieu of CPDLC uplink route amendment clearance messages.

CZQX FIR Oceanic route amendment clearances – VHF voice clearances in lieu of CPDLC uplink messages.

Post-implementation monitoring of the 4 December 2024 Oceanic Clearance Removal (OCR) by NAV CANADA has identified that some flight crews are confused with the new OCR procedures, with questions or route clarifications being asked on ATC VHF voice communications frequencies within the Gander Domestic FIR. The volume of queries and ATC explanations of OCR procedures by Gander Domestic ATC has increased the workload and complexity of operations. A notable percentage of these questions and route clarifications have been associated with CPDLC uplink route amendment clearance messages sent by ATC, in particular, the *"CLEARED TO [position] VIA [route clearance]"* uplink message.

To mitigate this workload and pilot confusion, CDQX FIR Domestic ATC will issue oceanic route clearances and amendments via VHF voice communications in lieu of CPDLC loadable Route Clearance uplink messaging before an aircraft reaches its Oceanic Entry Point (OEP).

Other OCR procedures, including Oceanic flight planning, RCL submission requirements and timing, and CPDLC route conformance monitoring, will continue unchanged. Route changes issued to aircraft once past OEP will continue to be issued by CPDLC or HF communications.

This change to issuing route amendment clearances in Gander Domestic airspace will be conducted as a trial between 5 May 2025 and 31 December 2025.

Expiry Date

This AIP Supplement expires 31 December 2025.

For further information, please contact:

Robert Flemming Manager, Gander Area Control Centre E-mail: robert.flemming@navcanada.ca