



31 October, 2013

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary, United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

James Williams
Manager, Federal Aviation Administration
Flight Standards Service
Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Office
490 L'Enfant Plaza, Suite 3200
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Secretary Foxx and Mr. Williams:

On behalf of California Governor Brown, we serve on the Governor's Military Council to support military, national security and aerospace operations in California. Our bipartisan group works to underscore California's unique value in these areas and to support public policy that advances national and state goals for these sectors.

We are writing to urge you to give full consideration of the two FAA designated UAS Test Site applications from the state of California. Two applications have been submitted from California, including one from the Indian Wells Valley Airport District and one from Ventura County. California is a leader in Aerospace and specifically Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). The state's military, educational, and industrial resources make both California applicants well suited for designation among the six sites required by the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

California has a history of innovation in the aerospace industry and remains at the forefront of technology development. Our diverse geography, integrated economy, leading educational institutions, and existing UAS industry expertise make California a unique proposition for a UAS test site. Nowhere else in the country can you find continuous airspace containing such diversity, including regions with 350 clear flying days each year. Geographic and climactic diversities between high desert, low desert, mountains, and the ocean make California a unique proposition.

Companies like Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, AeroVironment and General Atomics, all leading UAS companies, have established a presence in the state. In addition,

countless small manufacturers, developers, and innovators continue to develop UAS systems for commercial uses that, once able to fly in the National Air Space (NAS), will revolutionize countless industries and public safety abilities.

Both California applicants are well qualified to conduct the testing and analysis of unmanned systems. The aviation expertise from our state's UAS and Aerospace industry, partnered organizations and institutions, and supportive active military installations (including signed MOUs with Navy and Marine Corps installations) create an unparalleled collaborative ecosystem. The long history of UAS Test and Evaluation at Edwards Air Force Base, Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station and Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake means that the expertise to integrate this technology into the NAS already exists in California.

Both California applicants have established monitoring equipment and infrastructure to meet the FAA requirements to adequately test beyond line of sight, sense and avoid, automatic landing and recovery systems. More importantly, the knowledgebase of existing researchers, engineers, developers, and aviators create a safe operating environment in the state for testing and system development.

California stands ready and able to quickly establish ranges and conduct testing of UAS that will greatly enhance the FAA's ability to develop standards, policies, and procedures to safely integrate these systems into the NAS in a timely manner. Thank you for your serious consideration of the two California applicants, Indian Wells Valley Airport District and County of Ventura.

cc: Members of the California Congressional Delegation

Sincerely,

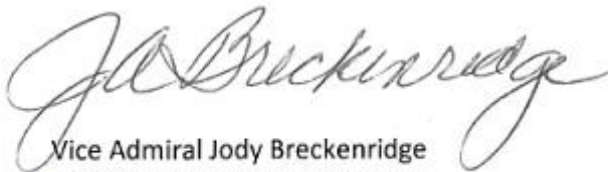
Members of the California Governor's Military Council



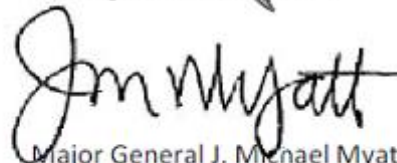
Honorable Ellen O. Tauscher
Chair, Governor's Military Council



Admiral Henry Mauz
United States Navy (Ret.)



Vice Admiral Jody Breckenridge
United States Coast Guard (Ret.)



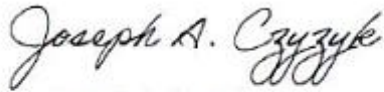
Major General J. Michael Myatt
United States Marine Corps (Ret.)



Rear Admiral James Johnson
United States Navy (Ret.)



Thomas R. Berard



Joseph A. Czyzyk



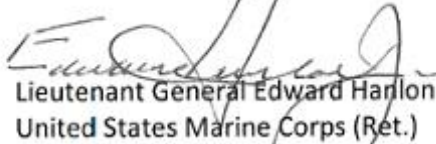
Dr. Mary E. Lyons



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State Senator Stephen Knight



Major General Dennis M. Kenneally
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State Senator Richard Roth
Major General, United States Air Force (Ret.)



Charles A. Giacchi



Major General David S. Baldwin
Adjutant General, California Military Department



Lieutenant General Eugene Tattini
United States Air Force (Ret.)



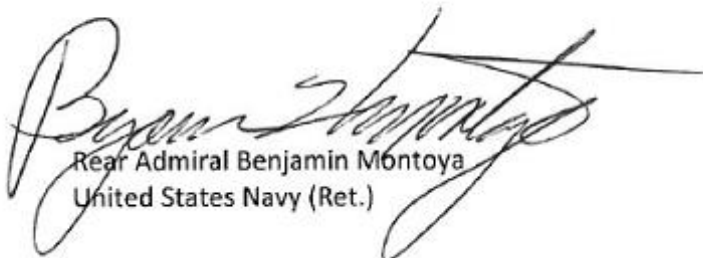
Major General Anthony Jackson
United States Marine Corps (Ret.)



Honorable Philip E. Coyle III



Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi



Rear Admiral Benjamin Montoya
United States Navy (Ret.)