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Description of document: Written responses from National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to Congressional Committees, 2011-2013

Request date: 20-April-2013

Released date: 26-July-2013

Posted date: 07-July-2014

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request
NASA Headquarters
300 E Street, SW
Room 5Q16
Washington, DC 20546
Fax: (202) 358-4332 Fax
Email: foia@hq.nasa.gov

Note: Some pages of marginal legibility

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National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



July 26, 2013

Reply to Attn of:

Office of Communication
Headquarters, FOIA Office

FOIA: 13-HQ-F-00556

Thank you for your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated April 20, 2013, and received April 22, 2013, at the NASA Headquarters FOIA Office. Your request was for:

I request a copy of each written response or letter from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to a Congressional Committee (not a congressional office) (or Committee Chair) in calendar years 2012 and 2013 to date. By this, I mean one-time type responses to Committee inquiries. You may exclude from the scope of this request regular periodic reports. You may exclude from the scope of this request constituent responses to a congressional office.

This is a narrow request involving a small number of responsive records. You may limit the search for records to include only that office or offices that would be likely to communicate with Congressional Committees.

The NASA Headquarters program office(s) conducted a search for Agency records. We are releasing 126 pages of responsive documents to your request. However, eight pages and portions of the documents are exempt from release under either or both 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6), "... personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy," and 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(7)(C), "records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes...could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy."

Under 14 CFR §1206.605, you may appeal this partial denial by writing to:

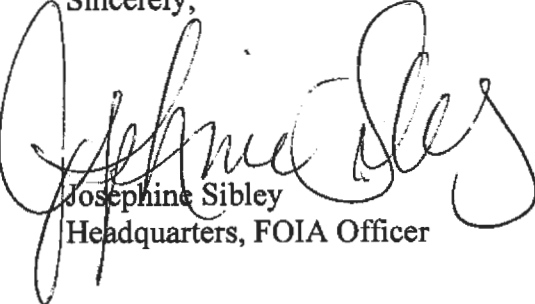
Administrator
NASA Headquarters
Mail Stop: FOIA, Room 9J74
300 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20546
ATTN: FOIA Appeals

Your appeal must be received within thirty calendar days from the date of this letter. A copy of your initial request and this partial denial letter must accompany the appeal. The appeal should be marked "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL" both on the envelope and the face of the letter. In order to expedite the appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this initial decision to be in error.

Fees for processing this request are less than \$15.00 and are not being charged in accordance with 14 CFR § 1206.700(i)(2).

Please contact Lubna Shirazi at Lubna.M.Shirazi@nasa.gov or 202-358-2034 for further assistance.

Sincerely,



Josephine Sibley
Headquarters, FOIA Officer

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 17, 2012

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman:

The FY 2012 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act (P.L. 112-55) provides a total of \$406.0 million for the Commercial Crew Program. P.L. 112-55 also includes a limitation with respect to the Commercial Crew Program, stipulating "That \$100.0 million of the funds provided for commercial spaceflight activities shall only be available after the NASA Administrator certifies to the Committee on Appropriations, in writing, that NASA has published the required notifications of NASA contract actions implementing the acquisition strategy for the heavy lift launch vehicle system identified in section 302 of P.L. 111-267 and has begun to execute relevant contract actions in support of the development of the heavy lift launch vehicle system." The purpose of this letter is to provide the certification called for in P.L. 112-55.

NASA is appreciative of the support by the Committees on Appropriations for the Commercial Crew Program that will establish a U.S. commercial capability to transport American astronauts to the International Space Station at the earliest possible time. However, NASA currently anticipates that this decreased level of funding below the President's FY 2012 request will push out the likely availability of a U.S. capability to carry crews to the ISS to 2017, and has necessitated a shift in our preferred acquisition strategy of utilizing firm fixed-price contracts for multiple suppliers. NASA has adopted a modified strategy for this next phase that will involve a new competition using Space Act Agreements intended to maintain competition for a longer period and enable multiple potential industry partners, with the flexibility to adjust technical direction, milestones, and funding. This strategy carries increased technical uncertainty, but it is the most viable alternative given the constrained budget environment.

The President is committed to ensuring America's continued preeminence in space and launching a new era of human spaceflight that takes us beyond where we have ever explored before. Space exploration inspires the next generation of scientists and engineers and contributes to important discoveries about Earth and the solar system, as well as innovation that grows our economy and creates jobs. NASA shares Congress' goal of sustaining American leadership in space exploration and is committed to implementing the

Commercial Crew Program, extended operation of the International Space Station through at least 2020, and development and launch of the Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle (MPCV) and Space Launch System (SLS) as authorized by Congress in the bipartisan NASA Authorization Act of 2010 and appropriated in P.L. 112-55. NASA is also committed to responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars and a sustainable program in the long run.

In the weeks following NASA's September 14, 2011, announcement of the design selected for the SLS, the Agency moved expeditiously to initiate the contract actions and other steps necessary to bring this architecture for space exploration to fruition, and all contracts are currently active. As listed below, NASA has posted, or plans to post, a series of documents designed to support the development of various components of SLS, including:

- SLS Acquisition Overview Synopsis, posted September 22, 2011;
- SLS Stages Acquisition Synopsis, posted September 28, 2011;
- SLS Core Stage Engines Synopsis, posted September 28, 2011;
- SLS Advanced Development Request for Information (RFI), posted October 7, 2011;
- SLS Advanced Booster Engineering Demonstration and Risk Reduction RFI, posted October 7, 2011;
- SLS Stages Justification for Other Than Full-and-Open Competition (JOFOC), posted on November 1, 2011;
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- Orion MPCV EFT-1 UCA, issued December 21, 2011;
- MPCV Exploration Flight Test-1 (EFT-1) JOFOC, posted on January 5, 2012;
- SLS Advanced Development Draft NRA, to be posted February 2012;

With the contract actions listed above, I hereby certify that NASA has executed all relevant contract actions in support of SLS development. In the coming months, NASA will continue to perform program formulation activities and execute design reviews to assure that the requirements developed for Orion MPCV, SLS, and Ground Systems Development & Operations (GSDO) are properly formulated, integrated, and correlated with the Agency's strategic objectives. By late summer 2012, SLS, MPCV, and GSDO are planned to have completed their System Requirements Reviews and System Definition Reviews and to enter into the preliminary design phase of the life cycle. In addition to the design reviews, hardware test and manufacturing is ongoing. For example, over the next six months, the SLS J-2X engine is planned to begin its next round of development testing with its PowerPack Assembly 2 (PPA-2) test series to validate and characterize the J-2X engine design, and the MPCV ground test article manufacturing process continues to support the EFT-1 flight in early 2014. By the end of calendar year 2012, NASA expects to have made significant

progress toward the EFT-1 flight in 2014 and the first uncrewed SLS developmental flight currently scheduled for December 2017.

I would be pleased to discuss this matter with you in greater detail if you wish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Bolden, Jr.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 17, 2012

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hutchison:

The FY 2012 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act (P.L. 112-55) provides a total of \$406.0 million for the Commercial Crew Program. P.L. 112-55 also includes a limitation with respect to the Commercial Crew Program, stipulating "That \$100.0 million of the funds provided for commercial spaceflight activities shall only be available after the NASA Administrator certifies to the Committee on Appropriations, in writing, that NASA has published the required notifications of NASA contract actions implementing the acquisition strategy for the heavy lift launch vehicle system identified in section 302 of P.L. 111-267 and has begun to execute relevant contract actions in support of the development of the heavy lift launch vehicle system." The purpose of this letter is to provide the certification called for in P.L. 112-55.

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The President is committed to ensuring America's continued preeminence in space and launching a new era of human spaceflight that takes us beyond where we have ever explored before. Space exploration inspires the next generation of scientists and engineers and contributes to important discoveries about Earth and the solar system, as well as innovation that grows our economy and creates jobs. NASA shares Congress' goal of sustaining American leadership in space exploration and is committed to implementing the

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I would be pleased to discuss this matter with you in greater detail if you wish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CBJ', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 17, 2012

The Honorable Frank Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The FY 2012 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act (P.L. 112-55) provides a total of \$406.0 million for the Commercial Crew Program. P.L. 112-55 also includes a limitation with respect to the Commercial Crew Program, stipulating "That \$100.0 million of the funds provided for commercial spaceflight activities shall only be available after the NASA Administrator certifies to the Committee on Appropriations, in writing, that NASA has published the required notifications of NASA contract actions implementing the acquisition strategy for the heavy lift launch vehicle system identified in section 302 of P.L. 111-267 and has begun to execute relevant contract actions in support of the development of the heavy lift launch vehicle system." The purpose of this letter is to provide the certification called for in P.L. 112-55.

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Sincerely,

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Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 17, 2012

The Honorable Chaka Fattah
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Fattah:

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Sincerely,

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Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 2, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLLA:CF:dac

The Honorable Ralph M. Hall
Chairman
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Section 103(c) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-155) requires that NASA transmit to the Committee copies of any internal notifications that a major program milestone is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the date provided in the Baseline Report.

Enclosed is a copy of an internal notification to the Administrator reporting that the Global Precipitation Measurement project (GPM) Launch Readiness Date is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the July 2013 date reported in the Baseline Report for GPM. The mission has confronted challenges associated with: spacecraft hardware technical issues; issues in the development of the GPM Microwave Imager instrument; and a delay in delivery of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Dual-frequency Precipitation Radar due to the impact of the March 2011 earthquake in Japan and required hardware rework. NASA does not expect this delay to cause the project to exceed its development cost baseline. NASA has begun work on the more detailed reports pursuant to this notification required by Section 103(d) of the Act.

We would be pleased to discuss the enclosed notifications with you in greater detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "L. Seth Statler".

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 2, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLIA:CF:dac

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Ranking Member
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Johnson:

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L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 2, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLIA:CF:dac

The Honorable Steven Palazzo
Chairman
Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20548-0001



February 2, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLIA:CF:dac

The Honorable Jerry Costello
Ranking Member (Acting)
Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 2, 2012

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The Honorable John D. Rockefeller, IV
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Section 103(c) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-155) requires that NASA transmit to the Committee copies of any internal notifications that a major program milestone is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the date provided in the Baseline Report.

Enclosed is a copy of an internal notification to the Administrator reporting that the Global Precipitation Measurement project (GPM) Launch Readiness Date is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the July 2013 date reported in the Baseline Report for GPM. The mission has confronted challenges associated with: spacecraft hardware technical issues; issues in the development of the GPM Microwave Imager instrument; and a delay in delivery of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Dual-frequency Precipitation Radar due to the impact of the March 2011 earthquake in Japan and required hardware rework. NASA does not expect this delay to cause the project to exceed its development cost baseline. NASA has begun work on the more detailed reports pursuant to this notification required by Section 103(d) of the Act.

We would be pleased to discuss the enclosed notifications with you in greater detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "L. Seth Statler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 2, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLLA:CF:dac

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hutchison:

Section 103(c) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-155) requires that NASA transmit to the Committee copies of any internal notifications that a major program milestone is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the date provided in the Baseline Report.

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We would be pleased to discuss the enclosed notifications with you in greater detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Seth Statler".

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 2, 2012

Reply to Attn of:

OLIA:CF:dac

The Honorable Bill Nelson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Science and Space
Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Section 103(c) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-155) requires that NASA transmit to the Committee copies of any internal notifications that a major program milestone is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the date provided in the Baseline Report.

Enclosed is a copy of an internal notification to the Administrator reporting that the Global Precipitation Measurement project (GPM) Launch Readiness Date is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the July 2013 date reported in the Baseline Report for GPM. The mission has confronted challenges associated with: spacecraft hardware technical issues; issues in the development of the GPM Microwave Imager instrument; and a delay in delivery of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Dual-frequency Precipitation Radar due to the impact of the March 2011 earthquake in Japan and required hardware rework. NASA does not expect this delay to cause the project to exceed its development cost baseline. NASA has begun work on the more detailed reports pursuant to this notification required by Section 103(d) of the Act.

We would be pleased to discuss the enclosed notifications with you in greater detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Seth Statler".

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 2, 2012

Reply to Actn of: OLIA:CF:dac

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Science and Space
Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Boozman:

Section 103(c) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-155) requires that NASA transmit to the Committee copies of any internal notifications that a major program milestone is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the date provided in the Baseline Report.

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We would be pleased to discuss the enclosed notifications with you in greater detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "L. Seth Statler".

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



OCT 18 2011

Reply to Airmail

SMD/Strategic Integration and Management Division

TO: Administrator
FROM: Acting Associate Administrator for Science Mission Directorate
SUBJECT: Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM) Notification of Baseline Launch Readiness (LRD) Change

In accordance with Public Law 109-155, Section 103, I am providing notification that the development schedule for the GPM project will exceed the Major Program Annual Report (MPAR) baseline launch readiness date by greater than six months. The MPAR cost baseline will not be exceeded.

Enclosed is a letter from the Earth Science Division responsible for the GPM project on this subject.

The Science Mission Directorate is prepared to support any further analysis of this issue required by Agency protocols.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Charles J. Gay".

Charles J. Gay

Enclosure

cc:
Office of the Chief Financial Officer/E. Robinson
Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs/L. Statler
Office of the Chief Engineer/M. Ryschkewitsch

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



Reply to Attn of: SMD/Earth Science Division

OCT 7 2011

TO: Acting Associate Administrator for Science Mission Directorate
FROM: Director for Earth Science Division
SUBJECT: Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM) Notification of Baseline Launch Readiness Date (LRD) Change

In accordance with Public Law 109-155, section 103, we are providing notification that the GPM project will exceed the Major Program Annual Report (MPAR) baseline LRD by greater than six months. The MPAR cost baseline will not be exceeded.

The GPM project has made excellent progress over the last two years since their Confirmation Review but schedule reserve erosion has been a continuing challenge. Spacecraft hardware technical issues and rework due to Agency-wide parts issues, GPM Microwave Imager instrument radio frequency subsystem development issues, and delay in delivery of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Dual-frequency Precipitation Radar due to the impact of the March earthquake and required hardware rework have contributed to this schedule reserve erosion.

As a result, the GPM project's LRD milestone of July 2013, which was approved at confirmation, is likely to be delayed by more than six months. The Earth Science Division is prepared to support any further analysis of this issue required by Agency protocols.


for Michael H. Freilich

cc:
Science Mission Directorate/M. Luther
Science Mission Directorate /R. Maizel
Science Mission Directorate/C. Hartman

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 13, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLIA:CF:dac

The Honorable Frank Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Section 103(c) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-155) requires that NASA transmit to the Committee copies of any internal notifications that a major program milestone is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the date provided in the Baseline Report.

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We would be pleased to discuss the enclosed notifications with you in greater detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L. Seth Statler", written over a horizontal line.

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20548-0001



February 13, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLIA:CF:dac

The Honorable Chaka Fattah
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Fattah:

Section 103(c) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-155) requires that NASA transmit to the Committee copies of any internal notifications that a major program milestone is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the date provided in the Baseline Report.

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We would be pleased to discuss the enclosed notifications with you in greater detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Seth Staller".

L. Seth Staller
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 13, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLIA:CF:dac

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

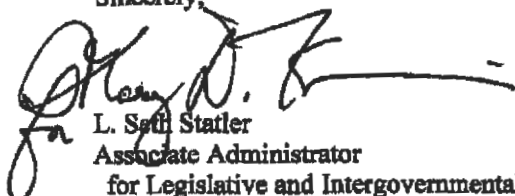
Dear Chairwoman:

Section 103(c) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-155) requires that NASA transmit to the Committee copies of any internal notifications that a major program milestone is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the date provided in the Baseline Report.

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We would be pleased to discuss the enclosed notifications with you in greater detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,


L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 13, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLIA:CF:dac

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hutchison:

Section 103(c) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-155) requires that NASA transmit to the Committee copies of any internal notifications that a major program milestone is likely to be delayed by more than six months from the date provided in the Baseline Report.

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We would be pleased to discuss the enclosed notifications with you in greater detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L. Seth Statler".

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



OCT 18 2011

Reply to Attn of

SMD/Strategic Integration and Management Division

TO: Administrator
FROM: Acting Associate Administrator for Science Mission Directorate
SUBJECT: Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM) Notification of Baseline Launch Readiness (LRD) Change

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Enclosed is a letter from the Earth Science Division responsible for the GPM project on this subject.

The Science Mission Directorate is prepared to support any further analysis of this issue required by Agency protocols.


Charles J. Gay

Enclosure

cc:
Office of the Chief Financial Officer/E. Robinson
Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs/L. Statler
Office of the Chief Engineer/M. Ryschewitsch

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



Reply to Attn of: SMD/Earth Science Division

OCT 7 2011

TO: Acting Associate Administrator for Science Mission Directorate
FROM: Director for Earth Science Division
SUBJECT: Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM) Notification of Baseline Launch Readiness Date (LRD) Change

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As a result, the GPM project's LRD milestone of July 2013, which was approved at confirmation, is likely to be delayed by more than six months. The Earth Science Division is prepared to support any further analysis of this issue required by Agency protocols.


Michael H. Freilich

cc:
Science Mission Directorate/M. Luther
Science Mission Directorate /R. Maizel
Science Mission Directorate/C. Hartman

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



March 15, 2012

Reply to Attn of:

OLIA:MDK:amb: 00148

Mr. David M. Gibbons
Director
Surveys and Investigations Staff
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Gibbons:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter, received on March 13, 2012, notifying NASA that the Surveys and Investigations staff will undertake an inquiry into the distribution of full-time equivalents at NASA.

NASA's point of contact for this inquiry will be Mary D. Kerwin, Deputy Associate Administrator for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs. Ms. Kerwin may be reached at 202-358-1948 or at mary.d.kerwin@nasa.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary D. Kerwin", written over a horizontal line.

Mary D. Kerwin
Deputy Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

MAR. 13. 2012 2:50PM

S&I-HAC

NO. 399 P. 2

HAROLD ROGERS, KENTUCKY, CHAIRMAN
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JERRY LEWIS, CALIFORNIA
FRANK R. WOLFE, VIRGINIA
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515-6015

March 5, 2012

NORMAN D. BOHRER, WASHINGTON
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BARBARA LEE, CALIFORNIA
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MICHAEL M. FONDA, CALIFORNIA
BETTY MCGILLIN, MINNESOTA

CLERK AND STAFF DIRECTOR
WILLIAM E. BUELL
TELEPHONE:
(202) 225-6771

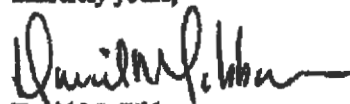
The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space
Administration
300 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 202(b), Public Law 601, 79th Congress (codified at 2 U.S.C. §72 a (b)), this Staff has been directed by the Committee on Appropriations to make an inquiry into the distribution of full time equivalents at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Please designate an appropriate point of contact to arrange for obtaining the data pertinent to this inquiry and notify my office by telephone within five business days of the receipt of this letter. If there are any questions regarding this matter, I can be contacted on (202) 225-3881.

Sincerely yours,



David M. Gibbons

Director

Surveys and Investigations Staff
House Committee on Appropriations



DATE: 3/13/12

TO: Mr. Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space
Administration

FROM: Joyce Stover
House Appropriations Committee
Surveys and Investigations Staff
Washington, D.C. 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-3881
FAX: (202) 225-2112

FAX NUMBER: 202-358-2810
TELEPHONE: 202-358-1801

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 2

Thank you for your assistance.

Joyce Stover

4340

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



March 8, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLIA:DG:dac

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hutchison:

This letter will confirm the non-reimbursable detail of Robert Floyd to the United States Senate, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, for the time period February 27, 2012, through January 2, 2013. We understand that Mr. Floyd will assist the Committee with NASA issues and legislative matters.

Mr. Floyd currently serves as an Assistant Technical Manager at NASA's Johnson Space Center. We are certain that this detail will be beneficial to both the Commerce Committee and NASA.

NASA will continue to pay Mr. Floyd's salary, benefits and travel costs associated with this non-reimbursable detail to the Commerce Committee.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Seth Statler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 8, 2013

Reply to Attn of:

00323
OLIA/2012-010114SS:amb

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Issa:

This is in further response to your letters of April 10, 2012 and April 30, 2012, to the Administrator requesting information regarding NASA conference and travel expenditures from January 1, 2005 to the present. The enclosed report provides the detailed information requested in your letter of April 10, 2012.

While NASA has been steadily enhancing its conference review processes since 2008, it made a number of significant improvements in FY 2012. Starting in October 2011, in accordance with Administration direction, NASA required that all NASA-sponsored conferences be centrally reviewed and approved by the Deputy Administrator; this process also required improved documentation of the planning and justification for the investments made in conferences hosted by NASA. Starting in May 2012, again in accordance with Administration guidance, NASA implemented reviews of spending and senior approvals for all conferences with costs over \$100,000. In June 2012, NASA updated its conference policies to enhance review and approval requirements for NASA-sponsored conferences with costs less than \$100,000, and to ban industry and others' widely attended gatherings and NASA-directly funded meals at NASA-sponsored conferences. This focus, along with the overall emphasis placed on travel savings at all levels, led to millions of dollars in reduced spending on conferences in FY 2012.

NASA also spearheaded several key internal initiatives, including savings in connection with NASA's three largest internal conferences, by directing that all three be changed in the coming years to a virtual format (and piloting the first of these as a virtual event in October 2012). For one of these conferences that was already essentially underway, NASA reduced its size significantly. These changes are conservatively estimated to have saved over \$2 million in FY 2012. In addition, NASA centralized a conference database tool to permit better coordinated planning across the Agency, and expanded

the scope of events tracked as "conferences," consistent with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum 12-12, issued in May 2012. This broader definition was also applied retroactively, so the information in the enclosed report encompasses more types of events than prior reports by NASA.

NASA spent the vast majority of the funds (80 percent in FY 2012) associated with conference attendance for presentations and participation at scientific and technical conferences. This practice helps to fulfill one of the fundamental mandates of the National Aeronautics and Space Act that NASA "shall provide for the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning its activities and the results thereof." At such events, NASA scientists, engineers, and leaders present scientific and technical papers and participate in interchanges on leading-edge research and technology with peers in the Federal government, the science community, the aeronautics and aerospace industries, and our international partners at conferences. Conferences attended and sponsored by NASA address a broad and diverse range of scientific and engineering challenges faced by NASA in carrying out its missions, including climate and other Earth science research, advanced aeronautics, and the cutting-edge technologies needed for both current and planned robotic and human space flight programs. As the enclosed report shows, in keeping with past reports to NASA's Office of Inspector General and Congress, a clear majority of conferences sponsored by NASA were undertaken in furtherance of this key statutory goal.

In addition to facilitating the dissemination and advancement of scientific research, conferences also serve as a cost-effective way for NASA to carry out other mission-related purposes, such as educational outreach, program development, institutional planning, and information gathering. For example, conferences on program management provide opportunities for examination of current trends in aerospace project and engineering management by offering forums for the exchange and dissemination of best practices, new ideas, and training to help the Agency cost-effectively meet the toughest challenges in space exploration today.

Items specifically requested in your April 10 letter and included in this response are:

1. "A list of overnight conferences funded by the department and attended by more than 50 employees since January 1, 2005. For each conference provide date(s), location, cost, funding source, and the number of attendees."

The enclosed listing identifies the conferences NASA has hosted or sponsored that were attended by 50 or more employees, along with the requested fields.

2. "The names, titles, and salaries of any individuals employed by the department to plan events."

We have coordinated with NASA Centers and Headquarters Offices and, to the best of our knowledge, NASA does not employ any individuals with a job title of event planner. However, a variety of people may be involved on an ad hoc,

part-time basis to ensure the successful planning and execution of these conferences.

3. "Address any websites created to promote, track, or commemorate department conferences. IF the website is currently archived on the agency's intranet, provide an electronic copy."

For each conference identified for item 1 of your request, URLs for all identified websites have also been included in the enclosed report.

Your follow-on letter of April 30, 2012 requested a list of any entities used by NASA to select sites for overnight conferences since 2005, and any documents or communications referring or relating to Location Solvers since January 1, 2009. Since 2005, site selection for NASA conferences is a role that has been reserved for civil servants. Starting in January 2009, NASA elevated the approval level to require an SES, SL or ST approver, and, since October 2012, NASA has required the selection be approved by a senior manager, an Official-in-Charge of a Headquarters Office or Center Director. With regard to your question regarding "Location Solvers," NASA's procurement records indicate that NASA has never had a contract or contractual relations with "Location Solvers." We additionally asked all Centers and Headquarters Offices to check local records for any use of Location Solvers, and none was found.

NASA has been steadily strengthening our conference sponsorship and attendance processes and we are currently implementing further improvements in our systems, processes, and reports. These measures are part of our continued efforts to be careful stewards of taxpayer dollars in carrying out our missions.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. We would be pleased to respond to questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,



L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

cc:
The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Member



Report
Regarding
NASA Conferences with over 50 NASA Attendees
January 2005 – September 2012

February 2013

NASA-Funded Conferences

January 1, 2005 - September 30, 2012

Conference Title	Location	Start Date	End Date	Website	Funding Source	NASA-Paid Attendees	Total Cost
2005							
205th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society (AAS)	San Diego, CA, USA	1/9/2005	1/13/2005	Link	AAS; NASA SMD Co-sponsor	54	\$116,891.07
NASA Project Management (PM) Challenge 2005	Greenbelt, MD, USA	3/21/2005	3/23/2005		NASA OCE	127	\$503,819.00
NASA Integrated Space Operations Summit III	Nashville, TN, USA	3/29/2005	3/31/2005		NASA JSC	215	\$161,356.92
21st National Space Symposium	Colorado Springs, CO, USA	4/4/2005	4/8/2005		Space Foundation; NASA GSFC Co-sponsor	60	\$70,165.48
NASA Facilities Engineering and Real Property (FERP) Conference 2005	Gulfport, MS, USA	4/11/2005	4/15/2005		NASA MSD	157	\$192,804.55
NASA Office of Inspector General All Hands Conference	Miami Beach, FL, USA	5/16/2005	5/20/2005	Link	NASA OIG	181	\$273,783.63
NASA General Counsel Conference 2005	Cleveland, OH, USA	5/23/2005	5/27/2005		NASA OGC	91	\$81,703.24
NASA Workforce Planning Conference	Austin, TX, USA	6/20/2005	6/23/2005		NASA OHCM	55	\$42,973.60
NASA Occupational Health Conference 2005	Lake Tahoe, NV, USA	6/27/2005	7/1/2005	Link	NASA OCHMO	95	\$130,512.20
NASA Vehicle Systems Annual Meeting	Columbus, OH, USA	7/18/2005	7/19/2005		NASA ARMD	168	\$155,810.92
NASA Procurement Training Conference 2005	San Diego, CA, USA	9/13/2005	9/15/2005		NASA OP	67	\$67,494.72
SOMD OFFSITE RETREAT	Baltimore, MD, USA	11/1/2005	11/3/2005		NASA HEOMD	56	\$39,868.81
NASA Risk Management Conference	Orlando, FL, USA	12/6/2005	12/8/2005	Link	NASA OCE	185	\$254,816.87
2006							
37th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference	Houston, TX, USA	3/13/2006	3/16/2006	Link	LPI; NASA JSC Co-sponsor	52	\$74,329.95

Conference Title	Location	Start Date	End Date	Website	Funding Source	NASA-Paid Attendees	Total Cost
NASA Project Management (PM) Challenge 2006	Galveston, TX, USA	3/19/2006	3/23/2006	Link	NASA OCE	177	\$215,262.10
Workforce Planning Conference	St. Louis, MO, USA	3/20/2006	3/23/2006		NASA OHCM	67	\$65,466.34
11th Annual NASA Export Control Conference	Ames Research Center, CA, USA	3/28/2006	3/29/2006		NASA OIIR	57	\$17,902.14
IPP Synergy Retreat Meeting	Houston, TX, USA	4/18/2006	4/21/2006		NASA IPP	51	\$49,300.11
NASA General Counsel Conference 2006	Cocoa Beach, FL, USA	4/23/2006	4/28/2006		NASA OGC	68	\$73,004.50
NASA Public Affairs Office (PAO) Annual Meeting	Kennedy Space Center, FL, USA	5/7/2006	5/9/2006		NASA OC	66	\$56,055.96
62nd American Helicopter Society (AHS) Annual Forum and Technology Display	Phoenix, AZ, USA	5/9/2006	5/11/2006		AHS; NASA ARMD Co-sponsor	79	\$124,835.06
NASA Integrated Services Network (NISN) Customer Forum 2006	San Antonio, TX, USA	5/21/2006	5/26/2006		NASA MSFC	64	\$111,265.78
NASA Environment & Energy Conference 2006	Portland, OR, USA	6/4/2006	6/9/2006		NASA EMD	112	\$145,408.25
Center Business Process Lead (CBPL) Summit	Moffett Field, CA, USA	6/5/2006	6/9/2006		NASA NEACC	63	\$77,458.63
NASA Occupational Health Conference 2006	Charleston, SC, USA	7/17/2006	7/21/2006		NASA OCHMO	119	\$140,042.99
NASA Center Management and Operations (CMO) Workshop	Memphis, TN, USA	10/23/2006	10/27/2006		NASA OPII	80	\$98,491.02
2nd AIAA Space Exploration Conference	Houston, TX, USA	12/4/2006	12/7/2006	Link	AIAA, NASA JSC Co-sponsor	213	\$479,765.86
NASA Procurement Training Conference 2006	Long Beach, CA, USA	12/12/2006	12/14/2006		NASA OP	440	\$536,108.65
2007							
NASA Project Management (PM) Challenge 2007	Galveston, TX, USA	2/6/2007	2/7/2007		NASA OCE	257	\$368,829.37
Airspace Systems Program Technical Interchange Meeting 2007	Moffett Field, CA, USA	3/19/2007	3/23/2007		NASA ARMD	70	\$13,393.96
23rd National Space Symposium	Colorado Springs, CO, USA	4/9/2007	4/12/2007	Link	Space Foundation; NASA ESMD Co-sponsor	115	\$194,817.58

NASA Conference Report

January 1, 2005 - September 30, 2012

Conference Title	Location	Start Date	End Date	Website	Funding Source	NASA-Paid Attendees	Total Cost
NASA General Counsel Conference 2007	Newport News, VA, USA	4/30/2007	5/4/2007		NASA OGC	98	\$90,924.04
63rd American Helicopter Society (AHS) Annual Forum and Technology Display	Virginia Beach, VA, USA	5/1/2007	5/3/2007	Unk	AHS; NASA ARMD Co-sponsor	58	\$116,667.78
NASA Integrated Services Network (NISN) Customer Forum 2007	San Diego, CA, USA	5/20/2007	5/27/2007		NASA MSFC	86	\$196,611.74
NASA Facilities Engineering and Real Property (FERP) Conference 2007	Jacksonville, FL, USA	5/21/2007	5/25/2007		NASA MSD	138	\$166,658.43
IEMP Core Business Process Lead (CBPL)	Williamsburg, VA, USA	6/3/2007	6/3/2007		NASA OCIO	106	\$91,705.88
IT Security Managers Workshop	Monterey, CA, USA	6/4/2007	6/6/2007		NASA OCIO	55	\$79,685.37
43rd AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference and Exhibit	Cincinnati, OH, USA	7/8/2007	7/11/2007	Link	AIAA; NASA GRC Co-sponsor	125	\$217,506.50
NASA Administrator's Fellowship Project (NAFP), Harriett G. Jenkins Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Project (JPPF), and Curriculum Improvement Partnership Award (CIPA) Project Symposium	Cleveland, OH, USA	7/16/2007	7/19/2007		NASA ED	52	\$71,680.05
Office of Audits All Hands Conference	Washington, DC, USA	7/16/2007	7/20/2007		NASA OIG	109	\$96,080.75
NASA Occupational Health Conference 2007	Denver, CO, USA	7/23/2007	7/27/2007		NASA OCHMO	116	\$150,343.68
NASA OSMA Software Assurance Symposium (SAS) 2007	Morgantown, WV, USA	9/26/2007	9/27/2007		NASA OSMA	69	\$46,819.70
Aviation Safety Technical Conference	St. Louis, MO, USA	10/9/2007	10/12/2007		NASA ARMD	119	\$218,813.67
NASA Procurement Training Conference 2007	Orlando, FL, USA	10/16/2007	10/18/2007		NASA OP	140	\$248,123.11
Fundamental Aeronautics Program (FAP) Annual Meeting 2007	New Orleans, LA, USA	10/30/2007	11/1/2007	Link	NASA ARMD	180	\$366,517.50
Exploration Systems Mission Directorate's Technology Exchange Conference	Galveston, TX, USA	11/11/2007	11/15/2007	Link	NASA AMO	109	\$186,454.72
American Geophysical Union (AGU) 2007 Fall Meeting	San Francisco, CA, USA	12/10/2007	12/14/2007	Link	AGU; NASA SMD Co-sponsor	133	\$138,453.91

NASA Conference Report

January 1, 2005 - September 30, 2012

Conference Title	Location	Start Date	End Date	Website	Funding Source	NASA-Paid Attendees	Total Cost
2008							
Administrative Solutions Conference	Houston, TX, USA	1/7/2008	1/8/2008		NASA OSI	55	\$110,813.30
NASA Workforce Planning Workshop	Nashville, TN, USA	1/7/2008	1/10/2008		NASA OHCM	77	\$65,283.06
46th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting and Exhibit	Reno, NV, USA	1/7/2008	1/10/2008		AIAA; NASA ARMD Co-Sponsor	248	\$440,188.85
DA Retreat	Galveston, TX, USA	1/23/2008	1/25/2008		NASA JSC	57	\$18,594.60
Space Technology and Applications International Forum (STAIF-2008)	Albuquerque, NM, USA	2/10/2008	2/14/2008		NASA ESMD	104	\$182,627.57
Cx Managers Meeting	Salt Lake City, UT, USA	2/19/2008	2/22/2008		NASA JSC	71	\$93,498.68
NASA Project Management (PM) Challenge 2008	Daytona Beach, FL, USA	2/26/2008	2/27/2008	Link	NASA OCE	564	\$848,172.54
IEEE Aerospace Conference 2008	Big Sky, MT, USA	3/1/2008	3/8/2008		IEEE, NASA SOMD Co-Sponsor	54	\$138,887.96
39th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference (LPSC)	League City, TX, USA	3/10/2008	3/14/2008	Link	LPI; NASA JSC Co-sponsor	54	\$81,347.24
Airspace Systems Program Technical Interchange Meeting 2008	Austin, TX, USA	3/17/2008	3/19/2008		NASA ARMD	109	\$155,258.93
NASA General Counsel Conference 2008	Washington, DC, USA	4/28/2008	5/2/2008		NASA OGC	104	\$72,239.42
NASA's Future Forum	San Jose, CA, USA	5/14/2008	5/14/2008	Link	NASA ED	85	\$71,395.79
Center Business Process Lead (CBPL) Workshop	Simi Valley, CA, USA	6/8/2008	6/9/2008		NASA OCIO	70	\$165,330.56
NASA Integrated Services Network (NISN) Customer Forum 2008	Chicago, IL, USA	8/24/2008	8/29/2008		NASA MSFC	59	\$175,809.38
IT Security Managers Workshop	New Orleans, LA, USA	9/9/2008	9/11/2008		NASA OCIO	64	\$15,467.21
Fundamental Aeronautics Program (FAP) Annual Meeting 2008	Atlanta, GA, USA	10/7/2008	10/9/2008		NASA ARMD	244	\$537,449.62
NASA Aviation Safety Technical Conference 2008	Denver, CO, USA	10/21/2008	10/23/2008	Link	NASA ARMD	126	\$260,693.10
Engineering Leadership Workshop	Arlington, VA, USA	12/3/2008	12/4/2008		NASA OCE	74	\$106,061.30

NASA Conference Report

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Conference Title	Location	Start Date	End Date	Website	Funding Source	NASA-Paid Attendees	Total Cost
6th Modeling and Simulation / 4th Liquid Propulsion / 3rd Spacecraft Propulsion Joint Subcommittee Meeting	Orlando, FL, USA	12/8/2008	12/12/2008	Link	NASA SOMD	54	\$123,310.26
NASA Procurement Training Conference 2008	Baltimore, MD, USA	12/9/2008	12/11/2008		NASA OP	315	\$513,840.89
American Geophysical Union (AGU) 2008 Fall Meeting	San Francisco, CA, USA	12/15/2008	12/19/2008	Link	AGU; NASA SMD Co-sponsor	213	\$529,486.77
2009							
47th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting and Exhibit	Orlando, FL, USA	1/5/2009	1/8/2009	Link	AIAA; NASA ARMD Co-Sponsor	180	\$460,395.50
NASA DA Retreat	Galveston, TX, USA	1/28/2009	1/30/2009		NASA JSC	59	\$19,657.00
NASA Project Management (PM) Challenge 2009	Daytona Beach, FL, USA	2/24/2009	2/25/2009		NASA OCE	231	\$438,877.06
CBPL Summit	Huntsville, AL, USA	6/8/2009	6/11/2009		NASA NEACC	73	\$93,211.82
NASA Occupational Health Meeting 2009	Cleveland, OH, USA	7/13/2009	7/17/2009	Link	NASA OCHMO	108	\$115,336.80
Thermal & Fluids Analysis Workshop (TFAWS 2009)	Huntsville, AL, USA	8/11/2009	8/13/2009	Link	NASA OCE	69	\$92,985.84
AIAA SPACE 2009 Conference and Exposition	Pasadena, CA, USA	9/14/2009	9/17/2009	Link	AIAA; NASA JSC Co-sponsor	165	\$326,802.39
Fundamental Aeronautics Program (FAP) Annual Technical Conference 2009	Atlanta, GA, USA	9/29/2009	10/1/2009	Link	NASA ARMD	313	\$567,273.47
NASA Senior Executive Summit 2009	Washington, DC, USA	10/6/2009	10/7/2009	Link	NASA MSD	551	\$960,515.83
Airspace Systems Program Technical Interchange Meeting 2009	San Antonio, TX, USA	10/13/2009	10/16/2009	Link	NASA ARMD	107	\$206,956.76
Women in Astronomy and Space Science 2009	College Park, MD, USA	10/21/2009	10/23/2009		NASA GSFC	71	\$144,131.58
Annual Meeting of the Lunar Exploration Analysis Group (LEAG)	Houston, TX, USA	11/16/2009	11/19/2009	Link	NASA JSC	60	\$52,163.00
Aviation Safety Program Technical Conference 2009	McLean, VA, USA	11/17/2009	11/19/2009	Link	NASA ARMD	166	\$301,681.41

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Conference Title	Location	Start Date	End Date	Website	Funding Source	NASA-Paid Attendees	Total Cost
TEDxNASA Conference	Newport News, VA, USA	11/20/2009	11/20/2009	Link	NASA LaRC	321	\$46,716.79
DA Retreat	Galveston, TX, USA	12/8/2009	12/10/2009		NASA JSC	58	\$23,289.44
American Geophysical Union (AGU) 2009 Fall Meeting	San Francisco, CA, USA	12/14/2009	12/18/2009	Link	AGU; NASA SMD Co-sponsor	289	\$827,392.72
2010							
NASA Project Management (PM) Challenge 2010	Galveston, TX, USA	2/9/2010	2/10/2010	Link	NASA OCE	381	\$977,722.07
41st Lunar and Planetary Science Conference	The Woodlands, TX, USA	3/1/2010	3/5/2010	Link	LPI; NASA JSC Co-sponsor	77	\$146,839.22
2nd Annual Agency Engineering Workshop	Cocoa Beach, FL, USA	3/8/2010	3/11/2010	Link	NASA KSC	119	\$148,957.66
1st International Workshop on On-Orbit Satellite Servicing	Adelphi, MD, USA	3/24/2010	3/26/2010	Link	NASA SMD	77	\$128,712.00
26th National Space Symposium	Colorado Springs, CO, USA	4/12/2010	4/15/2010	Link	Space Foundation; NASA HEOMD Co-Sponsor	74	\$335,521.40
NASA General Counsel Conference 2010	Pasadena, CA, USA	4/25/2010	4/30/2010		NASA OGC	76	\$121,148.49
SpaceOps 2010 Conference	Huntsville, AL, USA	4/25/2010	4/30/2010	Link	AIAA; NASA MSFC Co-sponsor	98	\$263,204.50
NASA Procurement Training Workshop	Kennedy Space Center, FL, USA	6/7/2010	6/11/2010		NASA OP	148	\$177,659.43
NASA Occupational Health Meeting 2010	San Antonio, TX, USA	6/7/2010	6/11/2010	Link	NASA OCHMO	105	\$153,443.62
NEACC Annual Center Business Process Leads Summit	Annapolis, MD, USA	6/8/2010	6/10/2010		NASA NEACC	115	\$140,261.85
NASA Assurance of Complex Electronics Forum	Sandusky, OH, USA	6/16/2010	6/18/2010		NASA GRC	70	\$0.00
Earth Science Technology Forum 2010	Arlington, VA, USA	6/22/2010	6/24/2010	Link	NASA SMD	53	\$65,461.99
40th AIAA Fluid Dynamics Conference and Co-Located Events	Chicago, IL, USA	6/28/2010	7/1/2010		AIAA; NASA GRC Co-sponsor	106	\$294,549.50

Conference Title	Location	Start Date	End Date	Website	Funding Source	NASA-Paid Attendees	Total Cost
46th AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference & Exhibit	Nashville, TN, USA	7/25/2010	7/28/2010	Link	AIAA; NASA HEOMD Co-sponsor	156	\$366,560.03
NASA Office of Audit All-Hands Meeting	San Antonio, TX, USA	8/10/2010	8/12/2010		NASA OIG	91	\$123,084.09
NASA Procurement Training Workshop	Ames Research Center, CA, USA	8/15/2010	8/19/2010		NASA OP	154	\$230,992.20
NASA IT Summit 2010	National Harbor, MD, USA	8/16/2010	8/18/2010	Link	NASA OCIO	367	\$1,027,810.00
Thermal and Fluids Analysis Workshop (TFAWS 2010)	Houston, TX, USA	8/16/2010	8/20/2010	Link	NASA JSC	83	\$97,856.21
Cx Managers Meeting and DM-2 Static Firing	Ogden, UT, USA	8/30/2010	9/2/2010		NASA JSC	146	\$202,915.64
NASA Safety Center, Audits & Assessments Office (AAO) Workshop 2010	Houston, TX, USA	9/7/2010	9/10/2010		NASA OSMA	110	\$118,595.50
NASA Education Stakeholders Summit	Chantilly, VA, USA	9/13/2010	9/15/2010	Link	NASA ED	102	\$139,968.49
Aviation Unleashed	Hampton, VA, USA	10/18/2010	10/20/2010	Link	NASA ARMD	73	\$134,303.19
A-Train Symposium	New Orleans, LA, USA	10/25/2010	10/28/2010	Link	NASA SMD	259	\$578,103.99
American Geophysical Union (AGU) 2010 Fall Meeting	San Francisco, CA, USA	12/13/2010	12/17/2010	Link	AGU; NASA SMD Co-sponsor	302	\$749,213.70
2011							
49th AIAA Aerospace Science Meeting	Orlando, FL, USA	1/4/2011	1/7/2011	Link	AIAA; NASA ARMD Co-Sponsor	291	\$679,458.40
217th AAS Meeting	Seattle, WA, USA	1/9/2011	1/13/2011	Link	AAS; NASA SMD Co-sponsor	87	\$232,670.24
James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) Partners Workshop	Houston, TX, USA	1/23/2011	1/26/2011		NASA SMD	58	\$108,097.24
DA Retreat	Galveston, TX, USA	2/2/2011	2/4/2011		NASA JSC	57	\$19,797.38
NASA Project Management (PM) Challenge 2011	Long Beach, CA, USA	2/9/2011	2/10/2011	Link	NASA OCE	779	\$1,648,880.00
IEEE Aerospace Conference 2011	Big Sky, MT, USA	3/5/2011	3/12/2011	Link	IEEE; NASA DFRC Co-Sponsor	63	\$272,010.57

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Conference Title	Location	Start Date	End Date	Website	Funding Source	NASA-Paid Attendees	Total Cost
42nd Lunar and Planetary Science Conference	The Woodlands, TX, USA	3/7/2011	3/11/2011	Link	LPI; NASA JSC Co-sponsor	110	\$275,219.05
NASA Senior Executive Summit 2011	Washington, DC, USA	3/15/2011	3/18/2011		NASA MSD	467	\$847,475.18
Fundamental Aeronautics Program (FAP) Annual Technical Conference 2011	Cleveland, OH, USA	3/15/2011	3/17/2011	Link	NASA ARMD	277	\$380,302.35
NASA Airspace Systems Program Technical Interchange Meeting	San Diego, CA, USA	3/29/2011	3/31/2011	Link	NASA ARMD	121	\$292,502.79
18th IAA Humans in Space Symposium	Houston, TX, USA	4/11/2011	4/15/2011	Link	NASA JSC	153	\$310,483.00
SFW Acoustics Technical Working Group Meeting	Cleveland, OH, USA	4/21/2011	4/22/2011		NASA GRC	80	\$15,451.67
NASA Statistical Engineering Symposium	Williamsburg, VA, USA	5/3/2011	5/5/2011	Link	NASA LaRC	83	\$64,532.87
NASA General Counsel Annual Meeting 2011	Huntsville, AL, USA	5/3/2011	5/5/2011		NASA OGC	67	\$77,734.61
NASA Facilities Engineering and Real Property (FERP) Conference 2011	Nashville, TN, USA	5/9/2011	5/14/2011		NASA MSD	146	\$313,733.17
NASA Aviation Safety Program Annual Technical Meeting	St. Louis, MO, USA	5/10/2011	5/12/2011	Link	NASA ARMD	107	\$180,437.08
Earth Sciences Technology Forum	Pasadena, CA, USA	6/20/2011	6/22/2011	Link	NASA SMD	77	\$106,970.99
41st AIAA Fluid Dynamics Conference and Exhibit and Co-Located Conferences	Honolulu, HI, USA	6/25/2011	6/30/2011		AIAA; NASA DFRC Co-sponsor	130	\$533,794.33
NASA Occupational Health Meeting 2011	Albuquerque, NM, USA	7/11/2011	7/15/2011	Link	NASA OCHMO	70	\$109,544.49
47th AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference & Exhibit	San Diego, CA, USA	7/31/2011	8/4/2011		AIAA; NASA HEOMD Co-sponsor	152	\$401,976.18
NASA IT Summit 2011	San Francisco, CA, USA	8/15/2011	8/17/2011	Link	NASA OCIO	494	\$1,364,754.59
Thermal & Fluids Analysis Workshop (TFAWS 2011)	Newport News, VA, USA	8/15/2011	8/19/2011	Link	NASA LaRC	90	\$123,901.82
3rd Annual Engineering Leadership Workshop	Hampton, VA, USA	9/19/2011	9/22/2011		NASA OCE	123	\$179,080.91
4th Annual NASA Small Business Symposium and Awards Ceremony	Herndon, VA, USA	11/3/2011	11/3/2011	Link	NASA OSBP	54	\$176,856.74

NASA Conference Report

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Conference Title	Location	Start Date	End Date	Website	Funding Source	NASA-Paid Attendees	Total Cost
2nd Annual NASA Education Stakeholders' Summit	Chantilly, VA, USA	11/29/2011	12/2/2011	Link	NASA ED	54	\$38,476.49
2012							
219th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society (AAS) Conference	Austin, TX, USA	1/8/2012	1/12/2012		AAS; NASA SMD Co-sponsor	86	\$178,979.09
50th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting	Nashville, TN, USA	1/8/2012	1/14/2012	Link	AIAA; NASA ARMD Co-Sponsor	210	\$482,155.53
Human Research Program Annual Investigators Workshop	Houston, TX, USA	2/14/2012	2/16/2012	Link	NASA HEOMD	104	\$221,219.22
NASA Project Management (PM) Challenge 2012	Orlando, FL, USA	2/22/2012	2/23/2012	Link	NASA OCE	374	\$537,622.59
Celebrating John Glenn's Legacy: 50 years of Americans in Orbit	Cleveland, OH, USA	3/2/2012	3/2/2012		NASA GRC	1300	\$48,427.41
IEEE Aerospace Conference 2012	Big Sky, MT, USA	3/3/2012	3/10/2012	Link	IEEE; NASA DFRC Co-Sponsor	51	\$209,136.49
Fundamental Aeronautics Program (FAP) Annual Technical Conference 2012	Cleveland, OH, USA	3/13/2012	3/15/2012	Link	NASA ARMD	248	\$332,946.34
43rd Lunar and Planetary Science Conference (LPSC)	Woodlands, TX, USA	3/19/2012	3/23/2012	Link	LPI; NASA JSC Co-sponsor	82	\$326,893.87
28th National Space Symposium	Colorado Springs, CO, USA	4/16/2012	4/19/2012	Link	Space Foundation; NASA HEOMD Co-Sponsor	60	\$212,820.96
NASA General Counsel Annual Meeting 2012	Cambridge, MD, USA	5/22/2012	5/25/2012		NASA OGC	87	\$74,669.91
2nd International Workshop on On-Orbit Satellite Servicing	Greenbelt, MD, USA	5/30/2012	5/31/2012	Link	NASA GSFC	53	\$40,286.02
Concepts & Approaches for Mars Exploration Workshop	Houston, TX, USA	6/12/2012	6/14/2012	Link	NASA HEOMD	64	\$94,746.95
UAS Integration in the NAS Project Annual Meeting	Mountain View, CA, USA	7/31/2012	8/1/2012	Link	NASA ARMD	58	\$34,382.00

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Conference Title	Location	Start Date	End Date	Website	Funding Source	NASA-Paid Attendees	Total Cost
Thermal and Fluids Analysis Workshop (TFAWS 2012)	Pasadena, CA, USA	8/13/2012	8/17/2012	Link	NASA OCE	100	\$247,279.90
4th PhysPAG Meeting 2012	Washington, DC, USA	8/14/2012	8/16/2012	Link	NASA GSFC	60	\$37,236.10
NASA Cost Analysis Symposium 2012	Laurel, MD, USA	8/21/2012	8/23/2012	Link	NASA OCE	74	\$86,132.52
GALEX Fest: Exploring the UV Universe- A Conference to Celebrate Nine Years of Exploration	Pasadena, CA, USA	9/4/2012	9/7/2012	Link	NASA SMD	68	\$50,438.00
Departure of Shuttle Endeavour from KSC	Cape Canaveral, FL, USA	9/16/2012	9/17/2012		NASA KSC	654	\$64,401.92

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



August 2, 2012

Reply to Attn of:

OLIA/2012-00323:LF:eel

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On May 7, 2012, NASA sent you an interim response to your letters of April 10, 2012 and April 30, 2012, to Administrator Bolden regarding conferences and related NASA activities. This response provides an update since the May letter.

We have begun implementing the latest policy of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regarding attendance and sponsorship of conferences that requires us to institute a number of changes in conference sponsorship and attendance practices, but allows us to both support a vibrant science and technology enterprise at NASA and spend the taxpayers' dollars wisely. The OMB memorandum requires a significant increase in conference reporting and approval requirements – oversight that we will provide to ensure our staff are able to participate in dialogue, exchange, and professional development opportunities that have value to the Agency and further our leadership in space exploration but are within the parameters of the policy.

NASA is committed to providing the Committee with the conference data requested, and we have launched a major exercise across the Agency to gather the specific information in response to your request. We expect to provide you with our completed response this Fall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Seth Statler".

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



May 7, 2012

Reply to Attn of:

OLIA/2012-01011:SS:us

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your letter of April 10, 2012, to Administrator Bolden regarding conference and related activities of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and to confirm receipt of your April 30, 2012, letter requesting additional conference-related information.

The Space Act of 1958 mandated that NASA "shall provide for the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning its activities and the results thereof." Conferences are a key vehicle for accomplishing this mandate, providing NASA scientists, engineers, and leaders the opportunity to present scientific and technical papers and to participate in interchanges on leading-edge technology with peers from elsewhere in the Federal government, the science community, the aeronautics and aerospace industries, and our international partners. Conferences attended and sponsored by NASA also address a broad and diverse range of scientific and engineering challenges faced by NASA in carrying out its missions, from the latest Earth science research, to advanced aeronautics, to cutting-edge technologies needed for both current and planned robotic and human space exploration programs.

In addition to facilitating dissemination and advancement of scientific research, conferences also serve as an effective way for NASA to carry out other mission-related purposes, such as program development, planning and information gathering, and education and program outreach. For example, conferences on program management provide opportunities for examining current trends in aerospace project and engineering management, offering forums for the exchange and dissemination of best practices, new ideas, as well as training for managers across NASA to help the Agency cost-effectively meet the toughest challenges today.

NASA is committed to providing the Committee with the conference data that you have requested, and is in the process of gathering the specific information that you requested in your April 10 and April 30, 2012, letters.

Your April 10, 2012, letter also requested information on individuals employed by NASA to plan events. We have checked with our Centers and, to the best of our knowledge, NASA does not have anyone specifically employed to plan events. However, every sponsored conference does have a required point of contact for approval and reporting purposes under the conference reporting policy, and a variety of people may be involved on a part-time basis in ensuring the successful planning and execution of these conferences, but none as a full time event planner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Seth Statler". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

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April 30, 2012

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
300 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

As part of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform's ongoing investigation into agency spending on conferences, I am writing to request information about the Department's use of companies to identify conference venues. Documents obtained by the Committee and public statements by the General Services Administration (GSA) Inspector General Brian Miller raised questions about the conduct of government employees who engage service providers to arrange venues for overnight conferences.¹²⁹ Government employees who accept gifts and discounts from those service providers may expose themselves to criminal liability.

In the case of the GSA's excessive and wasteful 2010 conference in Las Vegas, GSA employees engaged a company called Location Solvers. To better understand the extent to which event planners across the federal government rely on service providers such as Location Solvers, I request that the Department answer specific questions about any engagement with this or similar companies.

According to documents received by the Committee in conjunction with its investigation, GSA used a private company, Location Solvers, to secure the M Resort, a luxury hotel in Las Vegas, as the site of GSA's excessive 2010 Western Regions Conference.¹³⁰ The M Resort paid Location Solvers a fee of \$12,601.50.¹³¹ The fact that the M Resort agreed to pay such a fee "indicates that further discounts might have been available to GSA if GSA had contacted the hotel directly, rather than working through Location Solvers."¹³² It is possible that the fee was passed on indirectly to the taxpayers.

¹²⁹ See, e.g., Lisa Rein, *GSA Probe Focuses on Conference Contractor*, WASH. POST (Apr. 23, 2012).

¹³⁰ Transcribed Interview of Aron Taylor at 45 (Mar. 15, 2011).

¹³¹ General Services Administration Office of Inspector General, *Management Deficiency Report: General Services Administration Public Buildings Service 2010 Western Regions Conference 5* (Apr. 2, 2012).

¹³² *Id.*

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
April 30, 2012
Page 2

All other conference costs were borne by the taxpayers. For example, taxpayers footed the conference catering bill. Taxpayers also covered the salaries of the GSA event planners who engaged Location Solvers to do their jobs.

Location Solvers enjoyed a cozy relationship with GSA employees. Documents received by the Committee confirm that GSA employees received illegal gifts from Location Solvers.¹³³ Part 2635 of Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations prohibits government employees from accepting gifts valued at more than \$20. Transcripts of investigative interviews produced to the Committee show that on several occasions, Location Solvers provided federal employees with gifts with values well in excess of the \$20 limit.

Lisa Daniels, a GSA event planner, admitted allowing Location Solvers to pay for her one-night stay at the Rio All Suites Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. She also accepted tickets to a Cher concert. During her interview with the staff of the GSA Inspector General, she stated:

Q: Okay. You and I both know that Michael Jahn is a prohibited source. He's a contractor, okay, right?

A: Right.

Q: We agree with that. So what are the rules? You're not supposed to receive anything in —

A: Right. No, I know that, but I didn't even remember that I had done that.

Q: Okay. Well, I'm going to help you —

A: So I didn't — no, I didn't do it. I'm saying I remember now. When you put it in your report, I was like oh, my gosh. No, I stayed at the Rio. And he said oh, gosh, that's right. And then I went back, and I was like wait a minute. I was trying to figure out the first site visit meeting, and I was like that means I had to go to DC — or to — to have stayed two nights at the Rio, and then I realized I only stayed one night, and he picked up the tab for the other one.

Q: Yeah, he did.

¹³³ Transcribed Interview of Lisa Daniels at 87-88 (Apr. 5, 2012); Transcribed Interview of Aronel Taylor at 45 (Mar. 15, 2011); Lisa Rein, *GSA Probe Focuses on Conference Contractor*, WASH. POST (Apr. 23, 2012).

- A: For the hotel. Yeah, he -- so he did -- so that would be the hotel that he gave me for free.
- Q: That's right, and that -- and that in Vegas and that was the M Resort.
- A: Right.
- Q: Okay. What about the Cher tickets? I've done my homework.
- A: Yeah. He's -- and that's what I said to him. We went to the Cher concert, and that had to have been on Sunday night.¹³⁴

Daniels also stated that in a two-year period, she received flowers from Location Solvers monthly.¹³⁵ Location Solvers had a similar relationship with Aronel Taylor, another GSA event planner. Taylor told investigators that she preferred to use Location Solvers to identify conference sites because the company had treated her well. She stated:

- Q: I looked up your training records. You had the procurement training. You had the credit card training. And you've violated those. I am not going to lie to you. You remember the training when it talks about competitiveness and fairness? Remember that part of it?
- A: Yeah. I just, you know, I can use other vendors. I can. I just hadn't. He's [Jahn] just been good to me. But, yeah, I see your point.
- Q: You know what? If I can make \$12,600.00 from you, I would be good to you, too. That was one event.
- A: Yeah.
- Q: And I'm sure that these competitors would be more than happy to be good with you and even send you flowers on your birthday --
- A: Uh-huh.¹³⁶

The evidence obtained by the Committee reveals an acquisition process, devoid of competition, brought on by corruption and greed. The web site for Location Solvers lists the Department of Homeland Security among the company's clients; GSA does not

¹³⁴ Transcribed Interview of Lisa Daniels at 87-88 (Apr. 5, 2012) (emphasis added).

¹³⁵ *Id.* at 146.

¹³⁶ Transcribed Interview of Aronel Taylor at 48-50 (Aug. 29, 2011) (emphasis added).

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
April 30, 2012
Page 4

appear on the client list. Since the list on the web site is not exhaustive, the Committee is seeking information regarding each department or agency's use of Location Solvers and/or similar companies.

The Committee seeks to gauge the frequency with which the federal government utilizes service providers such as Location Solvers. Additionally, the Committee is interested in ensuring other federal employees are not engaging in improper or illegal conduct with respect to event planning. In order to assist the Committee with its investigation, please provide the following documents and information:

1. A list of any entities used by the Department to select sites for overnight conferences since 2005; and,
2. All documents or communications referring or relating to Location Solvers since January 1, 2009.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and may at "any time" investigate "any matter" as set forth in House Rule X. The Committee also has jurisdiction over the civilian acquisition system, generally. An attachment to this letter provides additional information about responding to the Committee's request.

We request that you provide the requested documents and information as soon as possible, but no later than noon on May 11, 2012. When producing documents to the Committee, please deliver production sets to the Majority Staff in Room 2157 of the Rayburn House Office Building and the Minority Staff in Room 2471 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The Committee prefers, if possible, to receive all documents in electronic format.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Ashley Callen or Ashok Pinto of the Committee Staff at (202) 225-5074. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Darrell Issa
Chairman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Minority Member

DARRELL E. ISSA, CALIFORNIA
CHAIRMAN

ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, MARYLAND
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

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Minority (202) 225-5051

Responding to Committee Document Requests

1. In complying with this request, you should produce all responsive documents that are in your possession, custody, or control, whether held by you or your past or present agents, employees, and representatives acting on your behalf. You should also produce documents that you have a legal right to obtain, that you have a right to copy or to which you have access, as well as documents that you have placed in the temporary possession, custody, or control of any third party. Requested records, documents, data or information should not be destroyed, modified, removed, transferred or otherwise made inaccessible to the Committee.
2. In the event that any entity, organization or individual denoted in this request has been, or is also known by any other name than that herein denoted, the request shall be read also to include that alternative identification.
3. The Committee's preference is to receive documents in electronic form (i.e., CD, memory stick, or thumb drive) in lieu of paper productions.
4. Documents produced in electronic format should also be organized, identified, and indexed electronically.
5. Electronic document productions should be prepared according to the following standards:
 - (a) The production should consist of single page Tagged Image File ("TIF"), files accompanied by a Concordance-format load file, an Opticon reference file, and a file defining the fields and character lengths of the load file.
 - (b) Document numbers in the load file should match document Bates numbers and TIF file names.
 - (c) If the production is completed through a series of multiple partial productions, field names and file order in all load files should match.

6. Documents produced to the Committee should include an index describing the contents of the production. To the extent more than one CD, hard drive, memory stick, thumb drive, box or folder is produced, each CD, hard drive, memory stick, thumb drive, box or folder should contain an index describing its contents.
7. Documents produced in response to this request shall be produced together with copies of file labels, dividers or identifying markers with which they were associated when they were requested.
8. When you produce documents, you should identify the paragraph in the Committee's request to which the documents respond.
9. It shall not be a basis for refusal to produce documents that any other person or entity also possesses non-identical or identical copies of the same documents.
10. If any of the requested information is only reasonably available in machine-readable form (such as on a computer server, hard drive, or computer backup tape), you should consult with the Committee staff to determine the appropriate format in which to produce the information.
11. If compliance with the request cannot be made in full, compliance shall be made to the extent possible and shall include an explanation of why full compliance is not possible.
12. In the event that a document is withheld on the basis of privilege, provide a privilege log containing the following information concerning any such document: (a) the privilege asserted; (b) the type of document; (c) the general subject matter; (d) the date, author and addressee; and (e) the relationship of the author and addressee to each other.
13. If any document responsive to this request was, but no longer is, in your possession, custody, or control, identify the document (stating its date, author, subject and recipients) and explain the circumstances under which the document ceased to be in your possession, custody, or control.
14. If a date or other descriptive detail set forth in this request referring to a document is inaccurate, but the actual date or other descriptive detail is known to you or is otherwise apparent from the context of the request, you should produce all documents which would be responsive as if the date or other descriptive detail were correct.
15. The time period covered by this request is included in the attached request. To the extent a time period is not specified, produce relevant documents from January 1, 2009 to the present.
16. This request is continuing in nature and applies to any newly-discovered information. Any record, document, compilation of data or information, not produced because it has not been located or discovered by the return date, shall be produced immediately upon subsequent location or discovery.

17. All documents shall be Bates-stamped sequentially and produced sequentially.
18. Two sets of documents shall be delivered, one set to the Majority Staff and one set to the Minority Staff. When documents are produced to the Committee, production sets shall be delivered to the Majority Staff in Room 2157 of the Rayburn House Office Building and the Minority Staff in Room 2471 of the Rayburn House Office Building.
19. Upon completion of the document production, you should submit a written certification, signed by you or your counsel, stating that: (1) a diligent search has been completed of all documents in your possession, custody, or control which reasonably could contain responsive documents; and (2) all documents located during the search that are responsive have been produced to the Committee.

Definitions

1. The term "document" means any written, recorded, or graphic matter of any nature whatsoever, regardless of how recorded, and whether original or copy, including, but not limited to, the following: memoranda, reports, expense reports, books, manuals, instructions, financial reports, working papers, records, notes, letters, notices, confirmations, telegrams, receipts, appraisals, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, prospectuses, inter-office and intra-office communications, electronic mail (e-mail), contracts, cables, notations of any type of conversation, telephone call, meeting or other communication, bulletins, printed matter, computer printouts, teletypes, invoices, transcripts, diaries, analyses, returns, summaries, minutes, bills, accounts, estimates, projections, comparisons, messages, correspondence, press releases, circulars, financial statements, reviews, opinions, offers, studies and investigations, questionnaires and surveys, and work sheets (and all drafts, preliminary versions, alterations, modifications, revisions, changes, and amendments of any of the foregoing, as well as any attachments or appendices thereto), and graphic or oral records or representations of any kind (including without limitation, photographs, charts, graphs, microfiche, microfilm, videotape, recordings and motion pictures), and electronic, mechanical, and electric records or representations of any kind (including, without limitation, tapes, cassettes, disks, and recordings) and other written, printed, typed, or other graphic or recorded matter of any kind or nature, however produced or reproduced, and whether preserved in writing, film, tape, disk, videotape or otherwise. A document bearing any notation not a part of the original text is to be considered a separate document. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of this term.
2. The term "communication" means each manner or means of disclosure or exchange of information, regardless of means utilized, whether oral, electronic, by document or otherwise, and whether in a meeting, by telephone, facsimile, email, regular mail, telexes, releases, or otherwise.
3. The terms "and" and "or" shall be construed broadly and either conjunctively or disjunctively to bring within the scope of this request any information which might

otherwise be construed to be outside its scope. The singular includes plural number, and vice versa. The masculine includes the feminine and neuter genders.

4. The terms "person" or "persons" mean natural persons, firms, partnerships, associations, corporations, subsidiaries, divisions, departments, joint ventures, proprietorships, syndicates, or other legal, business or government entities, and all subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, departments, branches, or other units thereof.
5. The term "identify," when used in a question about individuals, means to provide the following information: (a) the individual's complete name and title; and (b) the individual's business address and phone number.
6. The term "referring or relating," with respect to any given subject, means anything that constitutes, contains, embodies, reflects, identifies, states, refers to, deals with or is pertinent to that subject in any manner whatsoever.

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April 10, 2012

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr
Administrator
NASA
300 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is gathering government-wide data about the cost and frequency of agency-funded overnight conferences held outside of the Washington, D.C.-area. As part of this investigation, I am writing to request documents and information related to such conferences and the employees who planned and attended them.

On February 9, 2009, the President publically condemned frivolous spending of taxpayer dollars at a town hall meeting in Indiana. He stated: "you can't go take a trip to Las Vegas or go down to the Super Bowl on the taxpayers' dime."¹

With that in mind, on July 24, 2009, I wrote to the Social Security Administration (SSA) to request documents and information related to a "three-day conference for managers at the Arizona Biltmore Resort and Spa."² The agency subsequently produced documents to the Committee that showed it had been careless with taxpayer dollars. The SSA Administrator determined that "the conference organizers made some decisions that were not fully compliant with [SSA] policies or adequately sensitive to the expectations of the agency."³

¹ Dave Toplikar, *Las Vegas Still 'Reeling' from Obama Comments, Says Mayor*, LAS VEGAS SUN (Oct. 21, 2010).

² Letter from Hon. Darrell Issa, Ranking Member, Comm. on Oversight & Gov't Reform [hereinafter Committee] to Hon. Michael J. Astrue, Adm'r, U.S. Social Security Admin. (July 24, 2009) (citing Josh Bernstein, *Social Security Spends \$700,000 on Phoenix Conference*, KNXV-TV, <http://www.abc15.com/content/news/investigators/story/Social-Security-spends-700-000-on-Phoenix/RrHYWt4IRka1mC7wJTm4uQ.cspx> (last visited July 16, 2009).

³ Letter from Hon. Michael J. Astrue, Adm'r, U.S. Social Security Admin., to Hon. Darrell Issa, Ranking Member, Committee (Sept. 10, 2009).

The Administrator made significant organizational changes at SSA to prevent a recurrence.⁴ At the time, I hoped that the abundance of negative publicity about the event from a variety of news outlets would serve as notice that federal departments and agencies cannot use taxpayer dollars to pay for vacations disguised as conferences.⁵

The General Services Administration (GSA) failed to heed the President's message and to learn from the mistakes of the SSA. According to an April 2, 2012, report by the GSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG), the agency's biennial Western Regions Conference held in October 2010 was "excessive" and "wasteful."⁶ The conference, held at the M Resort in Las Vegas, cost \$822,751. According to the OIG report, witnesses characterized the conference as "over the top."⁷ In fact, the planners made it a priority to outdo previous years' conferences.⁸

Other agencies will hold major conferences in the upcoming months. The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority lists a two-day coal mine methane conference in September for 150 attendees organized by the Environmental Protection Agency; a six-day Department of Health and Human Services conference scheduled for June, with 325 expected attendees; and a Department of Defense worldwide education symposium for 2,500 in July.⁹

On November 9, 2011, the President signed an executive order that directed agencies to spend funds more efficiently.¹⁰ Specifically related to travel, the President stated:

[T]o ensure efficient travel spending, agencies are encouraged to devise strategic alternatives to Government travel, including local or technological alternatives, such as teleconferencing and video conferencing. Agencies should make all appropriate efforts to conduct business and host or sponsor events in space controlled by the Federal Government, wherever practicable and cost effective.¹¹

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ See Joseph Rhee & Brian Ross, *Social Security Execs Boogie Down at Lavish Phoenix Conference*, ABC NEWS (July 15, 2009), *Luxury on Your Dime*, FOX NEWS (Apr. 29, 2011), <http://video.foxnews.com/v/3935199/luxury-on-your-dime/>.

⁶ Gen. Servs. Admin., Office of the Inspector Gen., *Management Deficiency Report: Gen. Serv. Admin. Public Buildings Service 2010 Western Regions Conference* (Apr. 2, 2012) [hereinafter OIG Report].

⁷ *Id.* at 1-2.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ Steve Tetreault & Peter Urban, *Nevadans, industry scramble to limit fallout from GSA junket*, LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, Apr. 4, 2012.

¹⁰ Exec. Order No. 13,589, *available at* <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/11/09/executive-order-promoting-efficient-spending> (Nov. 9, 2011).

¹¹ *Id.*

With regard to commemorative items, the President directed agencies to "limit the purchase of promotional items (e.g. plaques, clothing, and commemorative items), in particular where they are not cost-effective."¹² This order, in addition to the President's public comments, should deter event organizers from even considering expensive off-site conferences.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) appears to be ignoring the President's clear guidance. Despite the President's comments and the executive order, CFPB is seeking to hire an "Invitations Coordinator."¹³ This individual's duties include tracking invitations for CFPB agency officials, researching the events to which they are invited, and maintaining a master schedule of events.¹⁴ The individual who fills this role could earn as much as \$102,900 annually.¹⁵

As families around the country are having to spend less to make ends meet, the federal government must follow suit. The American people have an expectation that the federal government is not using their tax dollars to pay for lavish conferences or to fund the salaries of event planners. In order to assist the Committee with its investigation, please provide responses to the following requests for information:

1. Provide a list of overnight conferences funded by the department and attended by more than 50 employees since January 1, 2005. For each conference provide date(s), location, cost, funding source, and number of attendees.
2. Provide the names, titles, and salaries of any individuals employed by the department to plan events.

The Committee also requests that the Department produce the following documents, in electronic format, for the time period January 1, 2005 to the present:

3. The address of any website created to promote, track, or commemorate department conferences. If the website is currently archived on the agency's intranet, provide an electronic copy.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and may at "any time" investigate "any matter" as set forth in House Rule X. An attachment to this letter provides additional information about responding to the Committee's request.

¹² *Id.*

¹³ Job Announcement Number 12-CFPB-145X, Invitations Coordinator, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, available at <http://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/306225500> (last visited Apr. 5, 2012).

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ *Id.*

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr
April 10, 2012
Page 4

We request that you provide the requested documents and information as soon as possible, but no later than noon on April 23, 2012. When producing documents to the Committee, please deliver production sets to the Majority Staff in Room 2157 of the Rayburn House Office Building and the Minority Staff in Room 2471 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The Committee prefers, if possible, to receive all documents in electronic format.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Ashley Callen or Ashok Pinto of the Committee Staff at (202) 225-5074. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Darrell Issa
Chairman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Member

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



June 15, 2012

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of May 22, 2012, requesting assurances regarding NASA's conference policies and procedures. You also asked for confirmation that all current year actual and planned conference expenditures are necessary activities, directly related to the mission and core responsibilities of the Agency.

NASA endeavors to fulfill our Space Act mandate while fulfilling the great responsibility we have to expend taxpayer dollars in a prudent fashion. We currently review any NASA-sponsored conference with total costs exceeding \$20,000, before proceeding with approval. Recently, in response to OMB Memorandum 12-12, we are also reviewing non-NASA conferences where attendance by NASA personnel may exceed \$100,000 for any one conference. In addition to limiting Agency participation in certain conferences, we have also challenged offices sponsoring Agency conferences to find innovative alternatives. I am being kept fully and currently informed of these efforts.

NASA is currently reviewing and refining several proposals that will further enhance our policies and procedures relating to conferences and plans to implement these by early summer. Moreover, to enhance reporting and approval processes, we are investing in a system enhancement to the Agency's Conference Tracking System, which will permit detailed planning and monitoring on a conference-by-conference basis.

As the NASA Administrator, I take my responsibility and accountability for use of taxpayer dollars in this area very seriously, and I would be pleased to discuss this matter with you in greater detail if you wish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. Bolden, Jr.", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator



Judges' plans for lavish \$1 million Hawaii conference bring scrutiny

Published May 21, 2012
FoxNews.com

On the heels of the scandal surrounding one government agency's lavish Las Vegas conference, federal judges in the western U.S. circuit are catching flak from Congress for a planned Maui getaway that could cost taxpayers more than \$1 million.

The Maui meet-up is scheduled for August under the banner of the 2012 Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, and will include judges, attorneys, staff and "special guests" from various federal courts spread across nine western states—including judges on the California-based Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

While in Hawaii, the guests are scheduled to stay in the upscale Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa. And they'll have the chance to kick back with an array of recreational activities—sport fishing, golf, paddle-board lessons, yoga, Zumba, even a floral design workshop.

The official website for the conference stresses that "government funds are not used for any recreational or sporting activities."

But Sens. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., and Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, in a letter to Ninth Circuit Chief Judge Alex Kozinski, called the activities "unrelated to the business of the court" and questioned whether the Ninth Circuit really needed to ship everyone out to the islands—a trip that incurs substantial costs in travel and lodging alone.

"The programs read more like a vacation than a business trip to discuss the means of improving the administration of justice," they wrote. "We are concerned about the overall cost of this conference and do not believe that discussions about the administration of justice would be less successful were they held somewhere other than a spa and resort in Hawaii."

A statement from the senators estimated the trip could cost more than \$1 million—pegging the cost of accommodations alone at more than \$500,000. That factors in room rates of between \$230 and \$250 per night for four nights.

Continued...

The government also provides a per diem—according to the conference website, this per diem starts at a base level of \$289.

Circuit Court Executive Cathy Catterson issued a written response to the complaints Monday afternoon saying the senators' letter is being reviewed and defending the upcoming conference.

"As part of the Third Branch of government, the Ninth Circuit is fully aware of its responsibilities as a steward of public funds," Catterson said, noting the conference is "authorized by law" for the purposes of considering court business and ways to improve the administration of justice.

"The conference fully adheres to these goals, providing an exceptional educational program and the opportunity to conduct numerous business meetings that further circuit governance. Judges and other attendees take seriously their obligation to participate fully in the conference," she said. "Costs for lodging and air travel to attend the conference are comparative to those found at mainland venues. Any sporting and recreational activities are paid for by individuals and are not reimbursable."

The hotel itself is situated on Kaanapali Beach, in the northwestern corner of the island on the outskirts of the island's lush rainforests. The resort features a full-service spa, a salon, 1,800 feet of beachfront property, two pools with waterfalls, a rope bridge and an outdoor whirlpool.

The GOP senators, in their letter, fired off a slew of questions for the Ninth Circuit about the cost of past conventions and the rationale for the upcoming one. They referenced the scandal over the General Services Administration conference in Las Vegas, which cost taxpayers more than \$800,000.

"Technology is so advanced that people are earning college degrees online and soldiers serving halfway across the world use Skype with their families at home," Grassley said in a statement.

"Likewise, a judicial circuit court should be capable of using technology to share information without requiring a trip to an island paradise. It's especially tone-deaf to plan a pricey conference after the GSA debacle. The taxpayers can't sustain this kind of spending, and they shouldn't have to. The court should re-examine whether this is the best use of tax dollars."

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2012/05/21/senators-scrutinize-judges-over-tone-deaf-conference-on-island-paradise/>

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



June 4, 2012

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Wolf:

Thank you for your letter of May 31, 2012. I confirm that your letter reflects NASA's intentions for the Commercial Crew Program (CCP). NASA is working to ensure that we end our reliance on foreign crew transportation to the International Space Station (ISS) and utilize safe, cost-effective U.S. crew transportation capabilities as soon as we are able to certify those systems to carry NASA astronauts.

As you know, our strategy is two-fold. NASA is using Space Act Agreements to support the development of commercial crew transportation capabilities that NASA could eventually buy, and will use FAR-based contracts for the certification of those capabilities and for the procurement of crew transportation services to and from the ISS. NASA is developing a strategy to award FAR-based contracts and anticipates having this strategy substantively complete before Commercial Crew Integrated Capability (CCiCAP) award. We will continue to keep the Committee informed on the progress of this effort.

I would emphasize that it is very important that final FY 2013 funding for the CCP be as robust as possible—a conference funding outcome for the CCP above the Senate-proposed level and closer to the President's FY 2013 request is highly desirable, in that it will increase NASA's ability to deliver the safe and effective program we both wish to see accomplished. Furthermore, it is important to note that the CCP will require increased annual funding in future years to accomplish the current program plan.

Thank you again for your support for continued implementation of the CCP this summer, and I look forward to working with you to deliver a Commercial Crew Program that will utilize safe, cost-effective U.S. crew transportation capabilities.

THANK FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS
TO TAKE A RISK IN TRUSTING
OUR TEAM. WE HAD TO
MAINTAIN OPEN LINES OF
COMMUNICATION TO MOVE THE
NATION FORWARD. YOUR STAFF
HAS BEEN SUPERB!

Sincerely,

Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

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Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515-6015

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 TELEPHONE:
 (202) 225-2771

May 31, 2012

Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
 Administrator
 National Aeronautics and Space Administration
 Washington, DC 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

As you know, I have been deeply troubled by NASA's goals for and management of the Commercial Crew Program (CCP) over the last two years. The report accompanying H.R. 5326 expressed a number of my concerns and imposed a new management paradigm on the program that was intended to address those concerns. The publication of the Committee's CCP report language touched off a series of discussions between my office, other members, outside experts and NASA itself in which it became clear that many of the concerns expressed in the report are broadly shared and that there is significant interest in identifying potential solutions to those concerns.

Although I believe the approach outlined in the Committee's report remains the most appropriate way forward for this program, the Committee has engaged NASA to find other potential solutions that will address some of the identified concerns while preventing any disruption in development work pending conference on the fiscal year 2013 appropriations bills. As a result of recent discussions, we have reached some common understandings with NASA regarding how the CCP should be managed and how NASA will respond to the oversight needs of the Congress with respect to the CCP's implementation. I believe these understandings represent a path forward that partially addresses the significant concerns raised in the Committee's report and, while differing from the management and budget plan NASA proposed earlier in the year, still allows the CCP to meet its programmatic goals.

Per our discussions, it is my understanding that NASA now has the following intentions for the CCP:

- The primary objective of the CCP is the achievement of the fastest, safest and most cost-effective means of domestic access to the International Space Station (ISS).
- In the upcoming Commercial Crew Integrated Capability (CCiCAP) phase, NASA plans to award Space Act Agreements (SAAs) to no more than 2.5 program partners (i.e., two full awards and one partial award), with the final number of awards made representing the minimum necessary to ensure the successful achievement of the CCP's primary objective.
- NASA intends to make the upcoming CCiCAP awards the final phase of general development funding for commercial crew contractors. Following these awards, NASA plans to provide commercial crew funding only for FAR-based certification and service contracts.
- NASA plans to define and implement a strategy to award FAR-based contracts in a manner that will minimize substantive delays and programmatic risks as the CCP moves from CCiCAP to the certification phase. NASA also plans to substantively complete this strategy prior to the awarding of SAAs for the CCiCAP phase and to communicate progress in the development of the strategy to the Committee.
- NASA intends to implement protocols to protect taxpayer interests by ensuring that, in the event of a commercial partner's termination from the program due to default or failure to perform, the government will:
 - have access to and use of data and licenses produced by that partner through the CCP;
 - have the "right of first refusal" to purchase real property produced by that partner through the CCP at a price that fully reflects the Federal investment already made in the acquisition or development of that property; and
 - require compliance with statutory and regulatory controls on the export of CCP-funded technology and property produced by that partner or the acquisition of that partner by a foreign-controlled entity.
- NASA intends to collect and evaluate information on potential CCiCAP partners' business viability, management, finances, resources and compliance regime to provide confidence that these partners are capable of meeting their obligations under the program.
- This management plan can be successfully implemented with a potential fiscal year 2013 CCP funding level at or near the Senate level.

If the CCP were to be managed in a manner that is consistent with these intentions, I would not object to the continued implementation of the program this summer. To that end, I request written confirmation from your office that these understandings accurately reflect NASA's CCP intentions and assumptions, as well as advanced notification at any point in the future if NASA intends to propose a substantive change to these understandings.

I expect NASA to provide to the Committee an updated multiyear roadmap for the program that reflects the updates and changes to the management plan embodied in the above understandings. This roadmap should include for each phase of the program the number of expected commercial participants and their estimated financial contribution to the program; the procurement mechanism to be used; and the major performance milestones to be achieved. Recognizing that such a plan would likely be procurement-sensitive in its complete form, a modified, publicly releasable roadmap should also be provided. A clearly defined roadmap for the remainder of this program will be important to addressing some of the concerns identified in the Committee report and for Congressional oversight.

I also expect that NASA will remain open to and cooperative with outside oversight (including any additional oversight requested by the Committee) as we move forward. Above all, I believe it is imperative that the funding provided for this program be focused to ensure that U.S. crew access to the ISS is restored as quickly and safely as possible, while minimizing government exposure in the event of contractor termination or failure.

Thank you, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Frank R. Wolf
Chairman
House Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science and Related Agencies

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



July 25, 2012

Reply to Attn of:

OLIA/2012-000504

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is in response to your July 12, 2012, letter regarding participation by senior officials at political fundraising events.

As you know, the Hatch Act permits senior government officials to participate in certain political activities that are consistent with the law as long as it does not interfere with their official duties. However, Administrator Bolden and Deputy Administrator Garver have not attended any Super PAC event or participated in the "Speakers Series" or similar political fundraising event. Additionally, no NASA employee is assigned to coordinate with the Democratic National Committee on events such as the "Speakers Series."

Thank you for your interest in NASA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Seth Statler".

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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July 12, 2012

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
300 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

In June 2010, I wrote to the heads of federal departments and agencies requesting information regarding the involvement of White House political personnel in official travel.¹ Now, I am writing to request similar information in the context of fundraising for the Democratic Party. Recent media reports indicate that Cabinet Secretaries are actively involved in fundraising for super PACs.² On June 7, 2012, *Politico* reported that with regard to Cabinet Secretaries participating in political events, the President has now "turn[ed] them [the Cabinet] loose for fundraisers and taxpayer-funded trips that meld policy and politics, and sometimes fall into the gray area between the two."³ Additionally, according to White House correspondent Daniel Stone:

Rather than fundraise for super PACs himself, the president decided he would send campaign and administration emissaries to the events (legally, Obama officials couldn't ask for the money outright, but could hobnob with donors before checks exchanged hands). Yet to keep Democratic campaign coffers full, the president agreed to an ambitious fundraising schedule, as many as six each week . . .⁴

The Committee is investigating the frequency with which Cabinet Secretaries appear at super PAC events and whether government funds have been used for travel to and from these events.

¹ See, e.g., Letter from Rep. Darrell Issa, Ranking Member, H. Comm. on Oversight & Government Reform (OGR) to Hon. Hillary Clinton, Sec'y, U.S. Dep't of State (June 3, 2010).

² Darren Samuelsohn, *Obama's Cabinet Members Mix Policy, Politics*, POLITICO, June 7, 2012; Byron Tau, *Obama Shift Reconnects Donors to Cabinet Secretaries*, POLITICO, Feb. 2, 2012; Daniel Stone, *Obama's Fundraising on Steroids: Choosing an Ambitious Schedule to Avoid Super PACs*, DAILY BEAST, May 6, 2012; Michael Barone, *Fundraising, Chicago-Style*, NAT. REVIEW, May 3, 2012.

³ Darren Samuelsohn, *Obama's Cabinet Members Mix Policy, Politics*, POLITICO, June 7, 2012.

⁴ Daniel Stone, *Obama's Fundraising on Steroids: Choosing an Ambitious Schedule to Avoid Super PACs*, DAILY BEAST, May 6, 2012.

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
July 12, 2012
Page 2

Shortly after the President filed for re-election, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on another type of fundraising event – the “Speakers Series.”⁵ According to the *Journal*, high-ranking government officials, well known entertainers, accomplished corporate leaders, and senior White House advisors have participated in Speakers Series events, which give supporters the chance to meet these individuals in exchange for a contribution to the Obama campaign.⁶

The Speakers Series, the super PAC fundraising participation, and travel to battleground states, appear to reflect an orchestrated attempt to use government officials for partisan fundraising purposes. The *Wall Street Journal* further reported that government officials such as Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson, Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan have all participated in the Speakers Series.⁷ Close advisors to the President have also participated. The story in the *Journal* stated:

White House chief of staff Bill Daley has rubbed elbows with small groups of top Obama campaign donors, as has [sic] senior White House advisors David Plouffe and Valerie Jarrett.⁸

The Committee’s mandate is to oversee the proper stewardship of taxpayer dollars. The Committee must also investigate any intersection between official duties and political activities. Historically, the intersection between political and official events has led to misuse of official government funds.

The Hatch Act, which governs political activity by government officials, falls squarely within the Committee’s jurisdiction. As such, the Committee has held two hearings on this subject during the 112th Congress. Most recently, on May 16, 2012, the Committee held a hearing entitled, “The Hatch Act: Options for Reform.” The hearing sought, among other things, to evaluate potential changes to the Office of Special Counsel’s jurisdiction over state and local Hatch Act violations, provide better guidance for presidential political appointees who have both official and political responsibilities, and consider how new communications technology affects the Hatch Act community. As in the past, panel witnesses reflected a noteworthy consensus that a Hatch update was essential for improving enforcement and guidance.

To assist the Committee in its investigation of Cabinet travel for fundraising purposes and other Hatch Act matters, please provide the following documents and information, as well as answers to the following questions:

1. Have you or any senior department or agency official attended any super PAC or other political events?

⁵ Jonathan Weisman & Carol E. Lee, *Obama Swing-State Visits Surpass Presidential Record*, WALL ST. J., Nov. 28, 2011.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Id.*

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
July 12, 2012
Page 3

2. If so, provide a list of the event(s), the department or agency participant(s), the date(s), the venue(s), the department or agency official(s)' mode of transportation to and from the event, and designate whether official or campaign funds were used to pay for the transportation. In addition, provide an agenda or program for the event(s).
3. Have you or any senior department or agency official participated in the Speakers Series or other similar political events?
4. Are there any department or agency employees who coordinate with the Democratic National Committee on events such as the Speakers Series or other political events? If so, provide their names.
5. Please provide all documents and communications related to the Speakers Series or other political events in which you or other senior officials have participated.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and may at "any time" investigate "any matter" as set forth in House Rule X. An attachment to this letter provides additional information about responding to the Committee's request.

We request that you provide the requested documents and information as soon as possible, but by no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 26, 2012. When producing documents to the Committee, please deliver production sets to the Majority Staff in Room 2157 of the Rayburn House Office Building and the Minority Staff in Room 2471 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The Committee prefers, if possible, to receive all documents in electronic format.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Ashley Callen of the Committee staff at (202) 225-5074. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Darrell Issa
Chairman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Minority Member

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Responding to Committee Document Requests

1. In complying with this request, you are required to produce all responsive documents that are in your possession, custody, or control, whether held by you or your past or present agents, employees, and representatives acting on your behalf. You should also produce documents that you have a legal right to obtain, that you have a right to copy or to which you have access, as well as documents that you have placed in the temporary possession, custody, or control of any third party. Requested records, documents, data or information should not be destroyed, modified, removed, transferred or otherwise made inaccessible to the Committee.
2. In the event that any entity, organization or individual denoted in this request has been, or is also known by any other name than that herein denoted, the request shall be read also to include that alternative identification.
3. The Committee's preference is to receive documents in electronic form (i.e., CD, memory stick, or thumb drive) in lieu of paper productions.
4. Documents produced in electronic format should also be organized, identified, and indexed electronically.
5. Electronic document productions should be prepared according to the following standards:
 - (a) The production should consist of single page Tagged Image File ("TIF"), files accompanied by a Concordance-format load file, an Opticon reference file, and a file defining the fields and character lengths of the load file.
 - (b) Document numbers in the load file should match document Bates numbers and TIF file names.
 - (c) If the production is completed through a series of multiple partial productions, field names and file order in all load files should match.
 - (d) All electronic documents produced to the Committee should include the following fields of metadata specific to each document;

BEGDOC, ENDDOC, TEXT, BEGATTACH, ENDATTACH,
PAGECOUNT, CUSTODIAN, RECORDTYPE, DATE, TIME, SENTDATE,
SENTTIME, BEGINDATE, BEGINTIME, ENDDATE, ENDTIME, AUTHOR, FROM,

CC, TO, BCC, SUBJECT, TITLE, FILENAME, FILEEXT, FILESIZE, DATECREATED, TIMECREATED, DATELASTMOD, TIMELASTMOD, INTMSGID, INTMSGHEADER, NATVELINK, INTFILPATH, EXCEPTION, BEGATTACH.

6. Documents produced to the Committee should include an index describing the contents of the production. To the extent more than one CD, hard drive, memory stick, thumb drive, box or folder is produced, each CD, hard drive, memory stick, thumb drive, box or folder should contain an index describing its contents.
7. Documents produced in response to this request shall be produced together with copies of file labels, dividers or identifying markers with which they were associated when the request was served.
8. When you produce documents, you should identify the paragraph in the Committee's schedule to which the documents respond.
9. It shall not be a basis for refusal to produce documents that any other person or entity also possesses non-identical or identical copies of the same documents.
10. If any of the requested information is only reasonably available in machine-readable form (such as on a computer server, hard drive, or computer backup tape), you should consult with the Committee staff to determine the appropriate format in which to produce the information.
11. If compliance with the request cannot be made in full by the specified return date, compliance shall be made to the extent possible by that date. An explanation of why full compliance is not possible shall be provided along with any partial production.
12. In the event that a document is withheld on the basis of privilege, provide a privilege log containing the following information concerning any such document: (a) the privilege asserted; (b) the type of document; (c) the general subject matter; (d) the date, author and addressee; and (e) the relationship of the author and addressee to each other.
13. If any document responsive to this request was, but no longer is, in your possession, custody, or control, identify the document (stating its date, author, subject and recipients) and explain the circumstances under which the document ceased to be in your possession, custody, or control.
14. If a date or other descriptive detail set forth in this request referring to a document is inaccurate, but the actual date or other descriptive detail is known to you or is otherwise apparent from the context of the request, you are required to produce all documents which would be responsive as if the date or other descriptive detail were correct.
15. Unless otherwise specified, the time period covered by this request is from January 1, 2009 to the present.
16. This request is continuing in nature and applies to any newly-discovered information. Any record, document, compilation of data or information, not produced because it has not been

located or discovered by the return date, shall be produced immediately upon subsequent location or discovery.

17. All documents shall be Bates-stamped sequentially and produced sequentially.
18. Two sets of documents shall be delivered, one set to the Majority Staff and one set to the Minority Staff. When documents are produced to the Committee, production sets shall be delivered to the Majority Staff in Room 2157 of the Rayburn House Office Building and the Minority Staff in Room 2471 of the Rayburn House Office Building.
19. Upon completion of the document production, you should submit a written certification, signed by you or your counsel, stating that: (1) a diligent search has been completed of all documents in your possession, custody, or control which reasonably could contain responsive documents; and (2) all documents located during the search that are responsive have been produced to the Committee.

Schedule Definitions

1. The term "document" means any written, recorded, or graphic matter of any nature whatsoever, regardless of how recorded, and whether original or copy, including, but not limited to, the following: memoranda, reports, expense reports, books, manuals, instructions, financial reports, working papers, records, notes, letters, notices, confirmations, telegrams, receipts, appraisals, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, prospectuses, inter-office and intra-office communications, electronic mail (e-mail), contracts, cables, notations of any type of conversation, telephone call, meeting or other communication, bulletins, printed matter, computer printouts, teletypes, invoices, transcripts, diaries, analyses, returns, summaries, minutes, bills, accounts, estimates, projections, comparisons, messages, correspondence, press releases, circulars, financial statements, reviews, opinions, offers, studies and investigations, questionnaires and surveys, and work sheets (and all drafts, preliminary versions, alterations, modifications, revisions, changes, and amendments of any of the foregoing, as well as any attachments or appendices thereto), and graphic or oral records or representations of any kind (including without limitation, photographs, charts, graphs, microfiche, microfilm, videotape, recordings and motion pictures), and electronic, mechanical, and electric records or representations of any kind (including, without limitation, tapes, cassettes, disks, and recordings) and other written, printed, typed, or other graphic or recorded matter of any kind or nature, however produced or reproduced, and whether preserved in writing, film, tape, disk, videotape or otherwise. A document bearing any notation not a part of the original text is to be considered a separate document. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate document within the meaning of this term.
2. The term "communication" means each manner or means of disclosure or exchange of information, regardless of means utilized, whether oral, electronic, by document or otherwise, and whether in a meeting, by telephone, facsimile, email (desktop or mobile device), text message, instant message, MMS or SMS message, regular mail, telexes, releases, or otherwise.

3. The terms "and" and "or" shall be construed broadly and either conjunctively or disjunctively to bring within the scope of this request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope. The singular includes plural number, and vice versa. The masculine includes the feminine and neuter genders.
4. The terms "person" or "persons" mean natural persons, firms, partnerships, associations, corporations, subsidiaries, divisions, departments, joint ventures, proprietorships, syndicates, or other legal, business or government entities, and all subsidiaries, affiliates, divisions, departments, branches, or other units thereof.
5. The term "identify," when used in a question about individuals, means to provide the following information: (a) the individual's complete name and title; and (b) the individual's business address and phone number.
6. The term "referring or relating," with respect to any given subject, means anything that constitutes, contains, embodies, reflects, identifies, states, refers to, deals with or is pertinent to that subject in any manner whatsoever.
7. The term "employee" means agent, borrowed employee, casual employee, consultant, contractor, de facto employee, independent contractor, joint adventurer, loaned employee, part-time employee, permanent employee, provisional employee, subcontractor, or any other type of service provider.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 13, 2013

Reply to Attn of: OLIA/2012-00648:RM:ceI

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Issa:

The Administrator has asked that I respond to your request for information regarding his official travel schedule for the time period from July 15, 2009, to the present.

Pursuant to your request, enclosed is a list that provides the following information for each NASA-funded trip conducted by the Administrator from July 15, 2009 through August 31, 2012.

- a) The travel start and end dates;
- b) The official purpose of the travel;
- c) The travel destination;
- d) Officials and other individuals with whom the Administrator met during the travel, including the names of principals involved in any meetings;
- e) NASA employees and/or other Federal employees who accompanied the Administrator on each trip; and,
- f) Non-Federal employees who accompanied the Administrator on each trip whose travel was funded by NASA.

We would be happy to discuss this information in further detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L. Seth Statler".

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Minority Member

Enclosure

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NASA Administrator Bolden Travel
July 16, 2008 - August 31, 2013

Enclosure

11/2/08	11/8/08	ORLANDO, FL	Annual Apollo 40th Anniversary Ceremony	Steve Abshire, Lyle Aldrin, Dan Barber, Neil Armstrong, Bill Anders, Alan Bean, Linda Bean, Vance Brand, Joe Brand, Scott Carpenter, Fred Chubbuck, Gene Cernan, Neil Armstrong, Deke Slayton, Charlie Duke, Owen Garriott, Ed Gibson, Herb Gibson, Clark Gibson, Fred Haise, Mark Postolm, Tim Jerns, Li Jerns, Mark Lee, Jack Levine, Gerald Lorenson, Jim Lovell, Mary Mearns, Jim McNamee, Edgar Mitchell, Adam Mitchell, Rusty Schweickart, Deke Scott, Ming Smith, Bob Smith, Steve Smith, Bob Springer, Debbie Springer, Tom Stafford, Lyle Stafford, Al Worden		
11/26/08	11/27/08	ORLANDO, FL	Landing Activities	Landing Activities		
11/3/08	11/2/08	NEW ORLEANS, LA	Speech - Anniversary of Exploration Ceremony for First Flight	Speech	Administrator's Executive Officer	
12/15/08	12/15/08	STANTON, OHIO and JERUSALEM, ISRAEL and NASA, ISRAEL	Speech - Memorial Conference of Space Exploration Meeting/Command Activities - Deputies and launch space and government officials to discuss space cooperation, USG officials, participants in ISS-400 memorial event and Ben Huron International Space Conference.	Speech General William Ward, Commander of AFMCC (P) (6) speaking for Gen. Michael Douglas, Chief of Staff, U.S. Naval Command, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Executive Board Chairman, Bill James, Chairman, U.S. Aerospace and Launch Initiative, Deputy Chief of Mission, Bill James, Chairman of Aeronautics and Space Administration, President of Israeli Air Force, Nelson, former Police Director, David Isaacson, Israeli Director of Science and Technology, Major General Ido Nishitani, Commander of the Israeli Air Force Bill James, Director General of the Israeli Space Agency, Yoram Sussman, President of the Israel Space Agency (ISA), Yoram Sussman, President National Space Agency (NASA)	Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Activities, International Program Specialist, NASA Representative in Europe	Associate Administrator
2/4/09	2/13/09	BOSTON, MA	Director Visit - Follow-up	Executive Leadership and Staff		
3/11/10	3/22/10	ORLANDO, FL TOKYO, JAPAN	Landing Activities Chair International Space Station (ISS) Visits of Agencies and bilateral meetings, bilateral meetings with ISS space agency counterparts, meetings with USG officials in Japan and Japanese Government officials	Landing Activities Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT), Kawabata and senior staff, Canadian Space Agency (CSA) President Marlene and senior staff, European Space Agency (ESA) Director General Giordano and senior staff, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) President Tsukamoto and senior staff, Roscosmos Head Fomin and senior staff, U.S. Embassy Tokyo Deputy Chief of Mission Zimmet, with senior USG and Japanese officials; media personnel	Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Activities, International Program Specialist	
3/10/10	3/20/10	PHILADELPHIA, PA	Speech - National Science Teachers Association Conference of Education	Speech		
3/28/10	3/26/10	CAPE CANAVERAL, FL	Landing Activities	Landing Activities		
4/1/10	4/5/10	HUNTSVILLE, AL CAPE CANAVERAL, FL	Center Visit - Marshall; Launch Activities - Kennedy	Executive Leadership and Staff; Landing Activities	Administrator's Executive Officer	
4/6/10	4/6/10	EL PASO, TEXAS	Speech - USC West School of Engineering Awards Ceremony	Speech	Chief of Staff	
4/12/10	4/14/10	GOLDADO SPRINGS, CO CHICAGO, IL	Speech - 26th Annual National Space Exposition (Colorado) Participate in 60th Anniversary event of	Speech		
4/15/10	4/16/10	CAPE CANAVERAL, FL	Center Visit - Kennedy	Executive Leadership and Staff		
4/16/10	4/16/10	CAPE CANAVERAL, FL	Landing Activities	Landing Activities		
4/17/10	4/21/10	NEW YORK CITY-ALL BOROUGH, NY	Meeting - American Museum of Natural History	American Museum of Natural History - Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson and Museum Staff	Administrator's Executive Officer	

NASA Administrator Bolden Travel
July 10, 2009 - August 31, 2012

Enclosure

4/27/10	4/28/10	HOUSTON, TX	NASA Advisory Council Meeting; Center 1010 - Johnson	NASA Advisory Council Meeting; Center Leadership and Staff	Administrator's Executive Office, Special Assistant Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Relations	
4/30/10	5/1/10	HOUSTON, TX	Speech - Auxiliary Readout Bureau for Space Administration Relat	Speech	Associate Administrator for Space Operations	
5/6/10	5/8/10	HOUSTON, TX	Speech - Houston-Texas University Commencement	Speech		
5/10/10	5/10/10	BOSTON, MA	Meeting	MIT President Susan Hockfield, Massachusetts Governor and Lt. Governor	Director, News and Multimedia, Deputy Associate Administrator for Education Initiatives	
5/11/10	5/11/10	ORLANDO, FL	Speech - Address	Speech - Address		
5/17/10	5/18/10	HAMPTON, VA	Meeting/Conference - Eagle Horizon 2010	Leading Leadership Eagle Horizon Executive Team	Administrator's Executive Office, Administrative Office	
5/21/10	5/21/10	HOUSTON, TX	Speech - International Space Medicine Summit at Rice University	Speech		
5/27/10	5/27/10	ATLANTIC CITY, NJ	Speech - AT (IEEE) Control Association Technical Symposium	Speech	Administrator's Executive Office	
5/28/10	5/28/10	CHICAGO, IL	Speech - RSS International Space Development Conference	Speech		
5/28/10	5/28/10	ORLANDO, FL	Speech - Astronauts Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony	Speech		
5/28/10	5/28/10	NEW YORK, NY	Speech - Summit of Innovation	Speech		
6/11/10	6/13/10	CAIRO, EGYPT AND DOKKI, EGYPT	Meeting/Conference/Address - Egyptian and Global space and government officials to discuss space cooperation, MARS official inventory	Meeting/Conference/Address - Egyptian and Global space and government officials to discuss space cooperation, MARS official inventory	Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Relations International Program Specialist, JSC/NASA Foreign Liaison	
6/29/10	6/29/10	NEW ORLEANS, LA	Attend Funeral service for Ray Bussey at Saints	Attend		
7/2/10	7/2/10	MIAMI, FL	Speech - (State) Western Area President	Speech		
7/9/10	7/9/10	CLEVELAND, OH	Speech - Cleveland City CME	Speech		
7/13/10	7/13/10	HAMPTON, VA	Meeting - NASA Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel Quarterly Meeting	NASA Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel Meeting	Executive Office	

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8/29/71	9/14/71	SUN DIEGO, CA	Speech - Fyrod Leathemack Museum Hall at NAS Airway	Speech	
8/30/71	8/30/71	MIRLANDO, FL	Lunch Activities	Lunch Activities	
8/31/71	8/31/71	COCOA BEACH, FL	Cancer Visit - Evening	Cancer Leadership and Staff	
9/1/71	9/2/71	HOUSTON, TX	Cancer Visit - Morning	Cancer Leadership and Staff	
9/2/71	9/2/71	MONTROVIE, IL	Speech - Space Exploration Celebration with the Space & Astronaut Center	Speech	
9/3/71	9/16/71	Cocoa Beach, FL	Lunch Activities	Lunch Activities	
9/17/71	9/17/71	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	Speech - New Horizons Airport Forum	Speech	
9/23/71	9/23/71	NALAMTON, VA	Speech - Virginia All World Space Lecture	Speech	
9/24/71	9/24/71	HOUSTON, TX	Cancer Visit - Johnson	Cancer Leadership and Staff	
9/29/71	10/6/71	CAMP TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA	To participate in the International Association of Congress (IAC) and to meet with the heads of other space agencies and government officials to participate in a special agency Heads Dinner. To provide the keynote speech at the Space Generation Congress to address U.S. citizens and young professionals to address students from around the world along with other space agency leaders, to meet with the U.S. Ambassador to engage in Public Diplomacy and ceremony to participate in a reception honoring USAF General Shultz.	Dr. Martin Schmidt, Director, United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs and Deputy Director-General of the United Nations Office in Vienna; James Aerobon Explorer Agency (NASA) President Ted Deane and senior staff; European Space Agency (ESA) Director General Dietrich and senior staff; German Aerospace Center (DLR) Chairman Wöhrer and senior staff; Russian Federal Space Agency (Roscosmos) Head Popovitch and senior staff; Canadian Space Agency (CSA) President Dr. Steve McEwen and senior staff; South African National Space Agency (SANSA) Chief Executive Officer Dr. Sandile Adkins and senior staff; St. John's Space, Director of Studies in charge of Training and Research, Algeria Space Agency (ASAT); Dr. Solis Cereia Assistant Director General and Chief Executive Officer, Nigerian National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRAD); Mr. Aboube Maamadou, President, Tunisian Association of Cosmonautics (TASCOS); U.S. students and young professionals; International Space Education Board members; Space Generation Council students and young professionals; U.S. Marine Security Detachment.	Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Relations, Director, Plans and Multinational International Programs Specialist
10/22/71	10/31/71	COCOA BEACH, FL	Cancer Visit - Kalamity	Cancer Leadership and Staff	
10/23/71	10/24/71	ORLANDO, FL	Speech - Richard Cheney Fulbright Library Foundation Phil Bolter Minority Scholarship Award	Speech	AA for Congressional Affairs
10/25/71	10/25/71	NEW ORLEANS, LA	Speech - Stimulus Space Center	Speech	
10/26/71	10/26/71	SANTAGO, CHILE BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA AND JUNE DOZ CAMPOS, BRA PALLO, SWITZERLAN JOHN COSTA, RICA	To meet with local and government officials and to inform members of the agency's science and technology community in Chile, Argentina, Brazil, and Costa Rica to discuss space cooperation to sign agreements with the Brazilian Space Agency and the Argentine Space Commission to meet with USG officials in country, to conduct educational and media public outreach events.	Alejandro Wolff, U.S. Ambassador to Chile, Rafael Martinez, Science/Patent Officer, Embassy of Chile, Public Affairs, Science/Technology, Science, Technology, and Health Officer, Embassy of Chile, Paul Matlock, Press Attaché, Embassy of Chile, Alfredo Sarmiento, Chilean Foreign Minister, Juan Marchetti, Chilean Minister of Health, Jorge Ojeda, Undersecretary of Public Health, Teresa Torres, Undersecretary of Economy of Chile, U.S. Mission Director, Embassies of Chile, Vito Martinez, U.S. Ambassador to Argentina, Mark Collins, Consulate, Development, Science, Technology and Health, Embassy of Argentina, Carlos Ovando de Arce, President of the Argentine Republic Line Services, Subdirector of Science and Technology, Hector Timmerman, Minister of Higher Education, International Cooperation and Scholarships, Minister of Planning, Vice-President of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Sandra Turiansky, Argentine Space Commission (CONAE), CONAE Argentine Principal Investigator and Director, Institute of Nuclear Sciences Applications, Michael Caplan, Columbia University of La Plata, Daniel Chiriac, CONAE and U.S. Mission Attaché, Juan Cruz Gallo, CONAE and U.S. Mission Attaché, U.S. Mission Security Detachment in Argentina, Bill Papp, Acting Consul General, U.S. Consulate of San Pedro de Atacama, Chile, Robert Combs, U.S. Embassy Attaché, Santa Fe, Chile	AA for international and interagency relations; NASA White House Policy, Planning, Plans and Information Director, Science Specialist International Programs Specialist, Director, Earth Science Division

NASA Administrator Bolden Travel
July 15, 2009 - August 11, 2012

Enclosure

10/23/11	10/24/11 Conf'd.			Jonathan Pomeroy, Assistant Secretary, US Consulate in Sao Paulo; Marco Antonio Peres, President, Brazilian Space Agency; Roberto Clement, Director, National Space Research Institute; Fabio Pinheiro, Head of Space and Sea Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; U.S. Marine Snooty Detachment in Brazil; Thomas Wharmy, U.S. Ambassador to Brazil; Anne Shepley Andrews, U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica; Marcelo Pinheiro, Regional Developmental Specialist for Central America and the Caribbean, U.S. Embassy in San Jose; Diego Jimenez, Commercial and Aviation, U.S. Embassy in San Jose; Eduardo Siles, President Director, National Center for High Technology; Francisco Chang-Gala, CEO, Ad Astra Rocket Company; Luis Michel, Executive Director, Center for Space Technology Laboratory; Minister of Education Alejandro Gutierrez, Minister of Science and Technology; U.S. Marine Security Brackets in Costa Rica		
11/1/11	11/1/11	HOUSTON, TX	Speech - Aeronautics Class Graduation	Speech		
11/1/11	11/1/11	DENVER, CO	Site visit - Ball Aerospace Corporation; Speech - University of Colorado, Boulder	Dean Taylor, CEO, Ball Aerospace Corporation; Ball Employees; Dr. Jack Burns, University of Colorado, Boulder	Deputy Chief of Staff	
11/1/11	11/1/11	BOSTON, MA	Speech - Harvard Veterans Ball Day	Speech		
11/1/11	11/1/11	HUNTSVILLE, AL	Center Visit - Marshall Space Flight Center; Speech - University of Alabama at Huntsville	Center Leadership and Staff; John Denberg, Dr. Joseph G. Caban, Andy Singer and Jo Ockerson, Chapter of Orange Pi Phi Chapter		
11/22/11	11/22/11	COCOA BEACH, FL	Launch Activities	Launch Activities	Principal Officer	
11/22/11	11/22/11	ORLANDO, FL	Speech - US Space and Federal Government Space Summit	Speech	Deputy Chief of Staff and NASA White House Fellow	
1/16/12	1/16/12	LAS VEGAS, NV	Meeting - Air Force Space Command (AFC) Meeting - Disposal Aerospace (NAV)	Air Force Leadership and Center; Meet with Bagram Leadership	Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Relations	
1/15/12	1/15/12	ATLANTA, GA	Speech - Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Commemorative Service	Speech	Speech Writer	
1/24/12	1/24/12	ATLANTA, GA	Speech - Georgia Tech	Speech	Deputy Chief of Staff	
2/2/12	2/2/12	SEATTLE, WA	Speech and Site Visit - President's Jobs Council	Speech	Press Secretary	
2/16/12	2/16/12	COCOA BEACH, FL	Center Visit - Kennedy	Center Leadership and Staff	Associate Administrator for Communications	
2/22/12	2/22/12	MCCOMB FIELD FACILITIES, GA	Speech - Orbital Sciences, Center Visit - Glenn, JPL, Dryden, Ames	Speech; Center Leadership and Staff	Associate Administrator for Communications	
2/27/12	2/27/12	QUEBEC CITY, CANADA	To chair the ISS Heads of Agencies multilateral meeting, ISS agency meetings with ISS agency counterparts, and to meet with Canadian Government officials	Canadian Space Agency (CSA) President; Michael and senior staff; European Space Agency (ESA) Director General; David and senior staff; Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) President; Toshiyuki and senior staff; Russian Federal Space Agency and senior staff; U.S. Mission to Industry and Commerce; Head of the Canadian Space Agency; Canadian Space Agency; U.S. Mission to Industry and Commerce	Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Relations; Deputy Associate Administrator for Communications; International Program Specialist	
4/1/12	4/1/12	CLEVELAND, OH	Attend EO Years of America in Ohio Annual event for Governor Gearty at Cleveland State University	Attendees		
5/14/12	5/14/12	ATLANTA, GA	Speech - President's Jobs Council, Georgia Tech	Speech		
5/21/12	5/22/12	AUSTIN, TX	Speech - National Contract Metallurgy Association Aerospace & Defense Conference	Speech	Associate Administrator for Communications	

NASA Administrator Bolden Travel
July 15, 2009 - August 31, 2012

Enclosure

8/30/12	4/8/12	SYDNEY AND CARBONARA, AUSTRALIA	To meet with senior officials at the NASA Canberra Deep Space Communications Complex and to participate in several events at the Australian Museum in Sydney and Carbonara.	Jeffery Blich, U.S. Ambassador to Australia, and senior staff, U.S. Consul General (Honorary) Carbonara Deep Space Communications Complex Director Krueger and senior staff, Citizens and Students of Australia National University, University of Sydney and University of New South Wales, Parliament and Australian Museum, officials, media personnel	Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Relations, Director, News and Multimedia, Director, Space Communications and Navigation, International Programs Specialist	
4/11/12	4/12/12	NEW YORK CITY-ALL BOROUGH, NY	International Day of Space Flight Speech - United Nations Academic Impact	Speech		
4/18/12	4/14/12	HUNTSVILLE, AL	Center Visit - Marshall	Center Leadership and Staff	Associate Administrator for Communications	
4/16/12	4/12/12	DEHY, CO	Speech - National Space Symposium	Speech		
4/19/12	4/16/12	NEW ORLEANS, LA	Center Visit - NASA	Speech		
5/2/12	3/16/12	BERLIN, HOFENBERG, MUNICH, GERMANY	To have meetings with German space agency and federal and regional government officials, to make a presentation at the ISS Symposium in Berlin to expand on public diplomacy and outreach, to meet with the U.S. Ambassador to participate in the German-American Partnership at the University of Maryland University College-Europe, with a significant U.S. military presence amongst the graduates, and to receive an Honorary Degree to visit the German Aerospace Establishment in Oberpfaffenhofen, including facilities that support ongoing bilateral cooperation.	Parliamentary State Secretary and Federal Government Coordinator of German Aerospace Policy, Peter Hantsch and senior Ministry officials, Ministry of Economics and Technology, Ambassador of the United States of America to the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Philip D. Murphy and senior Embassy officials, Member of Parliament (BPD) and Chairman of the Aviation and Space Group, German Bundestag Mr. Klaus-Peter Wilkisch, State Minister and Head of the Bavarian State Chancellery Mr. Thomas Erwin, German Aerospace Center (DLR) Chairman Werner and senior staff, U.S. Marine Academy Detachment in Berlin	Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Relations, NASA Representative in Europe (Staff and Munich only), Deputy Associate Administrator for Communications (Berlin only)	
5/27/12	5/21/12	CAPE CANAVERAL, FL	Site Visit - Wallops Speech - UNIS commencement activities	Wallops Staff, Speech, Launch Activities	Speech Writer	
5/21/12	5/22/12	COCOA BEACH, FL	Launch Activities	Launch Activities		
5/22/12	5/24/12	CAMBRIDGE, MD	Speech - Office of General Counsel Annual Meeting	Speech		
5/24/12	5/24/12	WILLIAMSBURG, VA	Speech - Aerospace Industries Association Board of Directors Meeting	Speech		
5/24/12	5/29/12	PARRIS ISLAND, SC	Speech - Joint College Orientation/Commencement, MCCO Florida Island and visit Charles F. Bolden Elementary School, Beaufort SC	Speech	Deputy Chief of Staff, White House Fellow	
6/2/12	5/21/12	HOUSTON, TX	Speech - Boegert for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Academy	Speech		
6/6/12	6/6/12	WEST PALM BEACH, FL	Commencement Speech, Service (Personal), Military Post-Whommy Site Visit - West Palm Beach, FL	Speech, Meet with TRAIT Walker leadership	Chief of Staff	
6/13/12	6/14/12	LOS ANGELES, CA	Meeting/Site Visit - SpaceX	Mike Musk, SpaceX CEO and SpaceX Staff	AA for Communications	
6/14/12	6/19/12	NEWPORT NEWS, VA	Speech - Challenge Center in Columbia SC, Grants Meeting - Eagle Horizon 2012 (Newport News)	Speech, Eagle Horizon Staff	Press Secretary	
6/25/12	6/20/12	LAS VEGAS, NV	Program Review/Site Visit	Mike Dave French, Bob Robinson		
6/28/12	6/20/12	HOUSTON, TX	Speech - UN News 50th Anniversary Summit (Dallas), Center Visit/Award Ceremony - Johnson	Speech, Chief of Leadership and Staff	Director, News and Multimedia	

NASA Administrator Beakins Travel
July 15, 2009 - August 31, 2012

Enclosure

7/5/12	7/1/12	LONDON/UNITED KINGDOM/ DUBLIN, IRELAND	<p>Landed To participate in the EuroLaunch International Air Show to meet with the U.S. Ambassador to arrange for Public Diplomacy and outreach to meet with the Heads of other space agencies and other government officials. (Dublin) To participate in the EuroLaunch Open Forum, including making a keynote speech to open with the U.S. Ambassador to meet with Irish Government officials to arrange for Public Diplomacy and outreach, to meet with the Heads of other space agencies and other government officials.</p>	<p>U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom, Lewis B. Sutton and senior staff; United Kingdom Space Agency (UKSA) Chief Executive, Dr. David White and senior staff; UK Minister of State for Universities and Science, Dr. David Willetts; British Minister of Education, University and Scientific Research, Sir Peter Sutherland; U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, Mr. David M. Manning; Irish Minister for Research and Innovation and the Chair of the Irish Research Council, Mr. John Sheehan T.D. and senior staff; Irish Prime Minister, Mr. Brian Cowie; Senior Embassy officials; U.S. Marine Security Commanders in London and Dublin.</p>	Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Relations, Press Secretary NASA International Programs	
7/18/12	7/22/12	ROCKVILLE CITY, MD BETHESDA, MD	Speech - Opening to the public of the Space Shuttle Gateway at the Integrated Air, Air and Space Museum	Speech	Associate Administrator for Communications, Director, News and Public Affairs	
8/2/12	8/1/12	LOS ANGELES, CA	Speech - International Space University (Germany); Landing Activities - MSL Curiosity event at JPL	Speech; Landing Activities	Asst. for Communications	
8/28/12	8/28/12	JACKSONVILLE, FL	Launch Activities	Launch Activities		
8/30/12	8/31/12	JACKSONVILLE, FL	Arriving; Mission Service	Arriving		

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 15, 2012

The Honorable Steven Palazzo
Chairman
Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of September 19, 2012, signed jointly with Chairman Hall, Ranking Member Johnson, and Subcommittee Ranking Member Costello, in which you formalize a request from Committee staff that NASA undertake an analysis of the potential cost and schedule for the Commercial Crew Program under certain stipulated assumptions.

Many of the matters raised in your letter were discussed during the hearing before the Committee on September 14, 2012. As the Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, William Gerstenmaier, testified, NASA has a two-fold strategy to end the United States' sole reliance on foreign crew transportation to the International Space Station (ISS) and utilize a safe, cost-effective U.S. Crew Transportation System (CTS) as soon as we are able to certify those systems to carry NASA astronauts:

- NASA is using Space Act Agreements under the Commercial Crew Integrated Capability (CCiCap) phase to support the design and development of commercial crew transportation capabilities; these agreements will be 21 months in duration for the base period, running from August 2012 through May 2014, leading to approximately a critical design review level of maturity for at least two of the agreements.
- NASA will use FAR-based contracts for the certification of commercially developed capabilities and for the procurement of crew transportation services to and from the ISS to meet NASA requirements.

NASA is committed to ensuring that the requirements, standards, and processes for CTS certification for all commercial missions are held to the same or equivalent safety standards as Government human spaceflight missions, and NASA certification will cover all aspects of any CTS. To enable the earliest possible crew transportation, NASA will begin the initial certification efforts immediately and has issued a Request

for Proposals for 2-4 FAR-based fixed-price Certification Products Contracts (CPCs) for the CTS Certification Phase 1 that will begin early NASA-managed certification activities; the period of performance will be approximately 15 months, with awards in February 2013. This will be followed in FY 2014 by award of 1-2 CTS Certification Phase 2 FAR-based contracts to include development, test, evaluation, and certification.

During the period of the six-month FY 2013 Continuing Resolution, NASA expects to fund Commercial Crew activities at an annualized rate of \$406 million, equivalent to the FY 2012 enacted level, which will support planned CCIcap and CPC activities during that period. To support program requirements beyond the six-month period, a full-year funding level of at least the FY 2013 Senate-proposed level of \$525 million is required.

It is important to note that the CCP will require increased annual funding in future years—above the level projected for FY 2013—to maintain competition during development and accomplish the current program plan to deliver an effective and timely ISS crew transportation capability. NASA has endeavored to be clear on this point in our discussions with Congress. It is important that appropriate funding be provided to secure timely, safe, redundant crew transportation for the ISS rather than asking NASA to attempt to match a crew transportation capability to a specified funding profile that is not based on a defined project plan. NASA has presented analysis and assumptions behind our project estimates to date, which have been reviewed for reasonableness by an independent contractor. As Mr. Gerstenmaier previously briefed Committee staff and testified at the recent hearing, as part of the CCIcap process, NASA has collected detailed technical information from proposers for projected cost/schedule required to complete development and achieve a crewed flight demonstration. NASA will use this information as input to cost and schedule models to support an independent cost assessment, develop a more rigorous project plan, and inform updates of NASA's budget estimates for the certification phase 2 as part of the FY 2014 budget request.

NASA would need to rely on these models to evaluate the cost/schedule scenario stipulated by Committee staff. Therefore, we do not expect to be able to provide a response to this request prior to the submission of the FY 2014 budget request. The Administrator and Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, as part of the release of the FY 2014 budget request, will brief the details of this activity for Committee staff and be prepared to discuss it as part of the FY 2014 budget hearings. It should be noted that some of the assumptions stipulated in the Committee letter are inconsistent with the premises of NASA's updated acquisition strategy, which forms the basis of our cost and schedule modeling efforts:

- NASA does not assume flat funding in future years for the CCP and does not assume that future funding is constrained by authorization levels enacted for previous years: as stated above, NASA is convinced that annual funding levels above that projected for FY 2013 will be necessary to complete the CCIcap effort and conduct the FAR-based certification efforts.
- NASA does assume that all baseline CCIcap effort under recently signed SAAs will be completed.

- NASA does not assume that cost-share amounts proposed by the CCIcap partners for the optional milestones will be available if the optional milestones under the SAA are not exercised.
- NASA does assume that activities subsequent to the baseline period will be carried out under FAR-based contracts, unless NASA elects, on a case-by-case basis, to exercise specific optional milestones.
- NASA does not assume a specific estimate for certification phase 2 at this time; this will be developed as the result of further detailed assessment that will rely on a variety of data; while NASA believes that having up to two contractors through Phase 2 would provide significant advantages for insuring a safe and affordable CTS through competition, the ultimate number of awards will be driven by technical maturity, funding availability, and mission needs.
- NASA does assume a crew transportation flight rate to ISS through at least 2020 of approximately 2 missions per year carrying 4 NASA/International Partner astronauts. As NASA has testified before the Committee, NASA is currently looking at the technical feasibility of extending the life of the ISS beyond 2020, possibly to 2028. In addition to certifying ISS systems to operate beyond 2020, a decision to extend the life of the ISS would require multilateral agreement among the ISS partners.

ISS is a critical resource for this Nation. The ISS is allowing U.S. researchers to experiment with the unique properties of space, which enables the United States to continue to be a leader in technology and innovation. ISS also allows the United States to lead and interact with many nations. The ISS is currently hosting research from 66 countries, which see the United States as the leader in space. Obtaining timely, safe, redundant crew transportation for this unique facility is critical.

The Committee's support for this high-priority effort is greatly appreciated. As always, we stand ready to provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 15, 2012

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Ranking Member
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Johnson:

Thank you for your letter of September 19, 2012, signed jointly with Chairman Hall, Subcommittee Chairman Palazzo, and Subcommittee Ranking Member Costello, in which you formalize a request from Committee staff that NASA undertake an analysis of the potential cost and schedule for the Commercial Crew Program under certain stipulated assumptions.

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- NASA will use FAR-based contracts for the certification of commercially developed capabilities and for the procurement of crew transportation services to and from the ISS to meet NASA requirements.

NASA is committed to ensuring that the requirements, standards, and processes for CTS certification for all commercial missions are held to the same or equivalent safety standards as Government human spaceflight missions, and NASA certification will cover all aspects of any CTS. To enable the earliest possible crew transportation, NASA will begin the initial certification efforts immediately and has issued a Request for Proposals for 2-4 FAR-based fixed-price Certification Products Contracts (CPCs)

for the CTS Certification Phase 1 that will begin early NASA-managed certification activities; the period of performance will be approximately 15 months, with awards in February 2013. This will be followed in FY 2014 by award of 1-2 CTS Certification Phase 2 FAR-based contracts to include development, test, evaluation, and certification.

During the period of the six-month FY 2013 Continuing Resolution, NASA expects to fund Commercial Crew activities at an annualized rate of \$406 million, equivalent to the FY 2012 enacted level, which will support planned CCiCap and CPC activities during that period. To support program requirements beyond the six-month period, a full-year funding level of at least the FY 2013 Senate-proposed level of \$525 million is required.

It is important to note that the CCP will require increased annual funding in future years—above the level projected for FY 2013—to maintain competition during development and accomplish the current program plan to deliver an effective and timely ISS crew transportation capability. NASA has endeavored to be clear on this point in our discussions with Congress. It is important that appropriate funding be provided to secure timely, safe, redundant crew transportation for the ISS rather than asking NASA to attempt to match a crew transportation capability to a specified funding profile that is not based on a defined project plan. NASA has presented analysis and assumptions behind our project estimates to date, which have been reviewed for reasonableness by an independent contractor. As Mr. Gerstenmaier previously briefed Committee staff and testified at the recent hearing, as part of the CCiCap process, NASA has collected detailed technical information from proposers for projected cost/schedule required to complete development and achieve a crewed flight demonstration. NASA will use this information as input to cost and schedule models to support an independent cost assessment, develop a more rigorous project plan, and inform updates of NASA's budget estimates for the certification phase 2 as part of the FY 2014 budget request.

NASA would need to rely on these models to evaluate the cost/schedule scenario stipulated by Committee staff. Therefore, we do not expect to be able to provide a response to this request prior to the submission of the FY 2014 budget request. The Administrator and Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, as part of the release of the FY 2014 budget request, will brief the details of this activity for Committee staff and be prepared to discuss it as part of the FY 2014 budget hearings. It should be noted that some of the assumptions stipulated in the Committee letter are inconsistent with the premises of NASA's updated acquisition strategy, which forms the basis of our cost and schedule modeling efforts:

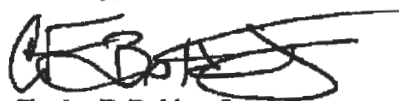
- NASA does not assume flat funding in future years for the CCP and does not assume that future funding is constrained by authorization levels enacted for previous years; as stated above, NASA is convinced that annual funding levels above that projected for FY 2013 will be necessary to complete the CCiCap effort and conduct the FAR-based certification efforts.
- NASA does assume that all baseline CCiCap effort under recently signed SAAs will be completed.

- NASA does not assume that cost-share amounts proposed by the CCIcap partners for the optional milestones will be available if the optional milestones under the SAA are not exercised.
- NASA does assume that activities subsequent to the baseline period will be carried out under FAR-based contracts, unless NASA elects, on a case-by-case basis, to exercise specific optional milestones.
- NASA does not assume a specific estimate for certification phase 2 at this time; this will be developed as the result of further detailed assessment that will rely on a variety of data; while NASA believes that having up to two contractors through Phase 2 would provide significant advantages for insuring a safe and affordable CTS through competition, the ultimate number of awards will be driven by technical maturity, funding availability, and mission needs.
- NASA does assume a crew transportation flight rate to ISS through at least 2020 of approximately 2 missions per year carrying 4 NASA/International Partner astronauts. As NASA has testified before the Committee, NASA is currently looking at the technical feasibility of extending the life of the ISS beyond 2020, possibly to 2028. In addition to certifying ISS systems to operate beyond 2020, a decision to extend the life of the ISS would require multilateral agreement among the ISS partners.

ISS is a critical resource for this Nation. The ISS is allowing U.S. researchers to experiment with the unique properties of space, which enables the United States to continue to be a leader in technology and innovation. ISS also allows the United States to lead and interact with many nations. The ISS is currently hosting research from 66 countries, which see the United States as the leader in space. Obtaining timely, safe, redundant crew transportation for this unique facility is critical.

The Committee's support for this high-priority effort is greatly appreciated. As always, we stand ready to provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 15, 2012

The Honorable Ralph M. Hall
Chairman
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of September 19, 2012, signed jointly with Ranking Member Johnson, Subcommittee Chairman Palazzo, and Subcommittee Ranking Member Costello, in which you formalize a request from Committee staff that NASA undertake an analysis of the potential cost and schedule for the Commercial Crew Program under certain stipulated assumptions.

Many of the matters raised in your letter were discussed during the hearing before the Committee on September 14, 2012. As the Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, William Gerstenmaier, testified, NASA has a two-fold strategy to end the United States' sole reliance on foreign crew transportation to the International Space Station (ISS) and utilize a safe, cost-effective U.S. Crew Transportation System (CTS) as soon as we are able to certify those systems to carry NASA astronauts:

- NASA is using Space Act Agreements under the Commercial Crew Integrated Capability (CCiCap) phase to support the design and development of commercial crew transportation capabilities; these agreements will be 21 months in duration for the base period, running from August 2012 through May 2014, leading to approximately a critical design review level of maturity for at least two of the agreements.
- NASA will use FAR-based contracts for the certification of commercially developed capabilities and for the procurement of crew transportation services to and from the ISS to meet NASA requirements.

NASA is committed to ensuring that the requirements, standards, and processes for CTS certification for all commercial missions are held to the same or equivalent safety standards as Government human spaceflight missions, and NASA certification will cover all aspects of any CTS. To enable the earliest possible crew transportation, NASA will begin the initial certification efforts immediately and has issued a Request for Proposals for 2-4 FAR-based fixed-price Certification Products Contracts (CPCs)

for the CTS Certification Phase 1 that will begin early NASA-managed certification activities; the period of performance will be approximately 15 months, with awards in February 2013. This will be followed in FY 2014 by award of 1-2 CTS Certification Phase 2 FAR-based contracts to include development, test, evaluation, and certification.

During the period of the six-month FY 2013 Continuing Resolution, NASA expects to fund Commercial Crew activities at an annualized rate of \$406 million, equivalent to the FY 2012 enacted level, which will support planned CCiCap and CPC activities during that period. To support program requirements beyond the six-month period, a full-year funding level of at least the FY 2013 Senate-proposed level of \$525 million is required.

It is important to note that the CCP will require increased annual funding in future years--above the level projected for FY 2013--to maintain competition during development and accomplish the current program plan to deliver an effective and timely ISS crew transportation capability. NASA has endeavored to be clear on this point in our discussions with Congress. It is important that appropriate funding be provided to secure timely, safe, redundant crew transportation for the ISS rather than asking NASA to attempt to match a crew transportation capability to a specified funding profile that is not based on a defined project plan. NASA has presented analysis and assumptions behind our project estimates to date, which have been reviewed for reasonableness by an independent contractor. As Mr. Gerstenmaier previously briefed Committee staff and testified at the recent hearing, as part of the CCiCap process, NASA has collected detailed technical information from proposers for projected cost/schedule required to complete development and achieve a crewed flight demonstration. NASA will use this information as input to cost and schedule models to support an independent cost assessment, develop a more rigorous project plan, and inform updates of NASA's budget estimates for the certification phase 2 as part of the FY 2014 budget request.

NASA would need to rely on these models to evaluate the cost/schedule scenario stipulated by Committee staff. Therefore, we do not expect to be able to provide a response to this request prior to the submission of the FY 2014 budget request. The Administrator and Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, as part of the release of the FY 2014 budget request, will brief the details of this activity for Committee staff and be prepared to discuss it as part of the FY 2014 budget hearings. It should be noted that some of the assumptions stipulated in the Committee letter are inconsistent with the premises of NASA's updated acquisition strategy, which forms the basis of our cost and schedule modeling efforts:

- NASA does not assume flat funding in future years for the CCP and does not assume that future funding is constrained by authorization levels enacted for previous years; as stated above, NASA is convinced that annual funding levels above that projected for FY 2013 will be necessary to complete the CCiCap effort and conduct the FAR-based certification efforts.
- NASA does assume that all baseline CCiCap effort under recently signed SAAs will be completed.

- NASA does not assume that cost-share amounts proposed by the CCIcap partners for the optional milestones will be available if the optional milestones under the SAA are not exercised.
- NASA does assume that activities subsequent to the baseline period will be carried out under FAR-based contracts, unless NASA elects, on a case-by-case basis, to exercise specific optional milestones.
- NASA does not assume a specific estimate for certification phase 2 at this time; this will be developed as the result of further detailed assessment that will rely on a variety of data; while NASA believes that having up to two contractors through Phase 2 would provide significant advantages for insuring a safe and affordable CTS through competition, the ultimate number of awards will be driven by technical maturity, funding availability, and mission needs.
- NASA does assume a crew transportation flight rate to ISS through at least 2020 of approximately 2 missions per year carrying 4 NASA/International Partner astronauts. As NASA has testified before the Committee, NASA is currently looking at the technical feasibility of extending the life of the ISS beyond 2020, possibly to 2028. In addition to certifying ISS systems to operate beyond 2020, a decision to extend the life of the ISS would require multilateral agreement among the ISS partners.

ISS is a critical resource for this Nation. The ISS is allowing U.S. researchers to experiment with the unique properties of space, which enables the United States to continue to be a leader in technology and innovation. ISS also allows the United States to lead and interact with many nations. The ISS is currently hosting research from 66 countries, which see the United States as the leader in space. Obtaining timely, safe, redundant crew transportation for this unique facility is critical.

The Committee's support for this high-priority effort is greatly appreciated. As always, we stand ready to provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 15, 2012

The Honorable Jerry Costello
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Costello:

Thank you for your letter of September 19, 2012, signed jointly with Chairman Hall, Ranking Member Johnson, and Subcommittee Chairman Palazzo, in which you formalize a request from Committee staff that NASA undertake an analysis of the potential cost and schedule for the Commercial Crew Program under certain stipulated assumptions.

Many of the matters raised in your letter were discussed during the hearing before the Committee on September 14, 2012. As the Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, William Gerstenmaier, testified, NASA has a two-fold strategy to end the United States' sole reliance on foreign crew transportation to the International Space Station (ISS) and utilize a safe, cost-effective U.S. Crew Transportation System (CTS) as soon as we are able to certify those systems to carry NASA astronauts:

- NASA is using Space Act Agreements under the Commercial Crew Integrated Capability (CCiCap) phase to support the design and development of commercial crew transportation capabilities; these agreements will be 21 months in duration for the base period, running from August 2012 through May 2014, leading to approximately a critical design review level of maturity for at least two of the agreements.
- NASA will use FAR-based contracts for the certification of commercially developed capabilities and for the procurement of crew transportation services to and from the ISS to meet NASA requirements.

NASA is committed to ensuring that the requirements, standards, and processes for CTS certification for all commercial missions are held to the same or equivalent safety standards as Government human spaceflight missions, and NASA certification will cover all aspects of any CTS. To enable the earliest possible crew transportation, NASA will begin the initial certification efforts immediately and has issued a Request

for Proposals for 2-4 FAR-based fixed-price Certification Products Contracts (CPCs) for the CTS Certification Phase 1 that will begin early NASA-managed certification activities; the period of performance will be approximately 15 months, with awards in February 2013. This will be followed in FY 2014 by award of 1-2 CTS Certification Phase 2 FAR-based contracts to include development, test, evaluation, and certification.

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It is important to note that the CCP will require increased annual funding in future years--above the level projected for FY 2013--to maintain competition during development and accomplish the current program plan to deliver an effective and timely ISS crew transportation capability. NASA has endeavored to be clear on this point in our discussions with Congress. It is important that appropriate funding be provided to secure timely, safe, redundant crew transportation for the ISS rather than asking NASA to attempt to match a crew transportation capability to a specified funding profile that is not based on a defined project plan. NASA has presented analysis and assumptions behind our project estimates to date, which have been reviewed for reasonableness by an independent contractor. As Mr. Gerstenmaier previously briefed Committee staff and testified at the recent hearing, as part of the CCiCap process, NASA has collected detailed technical information from proposers for projected cost/schedule required to complete development and achieve a crewed flight demonstration. NASA will use this information as input to cost and schedule models to support an independent cost assessment, develop a more rigorous project plan, and inform updates of NASA's budget estimates for the certification phase 2 as part of the FY 2014 budget request.

NASA would need to rely on these models to evaluate the cost/schedule scenario stipulated by Committee staff. Therefore, we do not expect to be able to provide a response to this request prior to the submission of the FY 2014 budget request. The Administrator and Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, as part of the release of the FY 2014 budget request, will brief the details of this activity for Committee staff and be prepared to discuss it as part of the FY 2014 budget hearings. It should be noted that some of the assumptions stipulated in the Committee letter are inconsistent with the premises of NASA's updated acquisition strategy, which forms the basis of our cost and schedule modeling efforts:


- * NASA does not assume flat funding in future years for the CCP and does not assume that future funding is constrained by authorization levels enacted for previous years; as stated above, NASA is convinced that annual funding levels above that projected for FY 2013 will be necessary to complete the CCiCap effort and conduct the FAR-based certification efforts.
- NASA does assume that all baseline CCiCap effort under recently signed SAAs will be completed.

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- NASA does assume that activities subsequent to the baseline period will be carried out under FAR-based contracts, unless NASA elects, on a case-by-case basis, to exercise specific optional milestones.
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The Committee's support for this high-priority effort is greatly appreciated. As always, we stand ready to provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

RALPH M. HALL, TEXAS
CHAIRMAN

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, TEXAS
RANKING MEMBER

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

2221 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6301
(202) 225-6371
www.science.house.gov

September 19, 2012

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Two Independence Square, SW
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

On August 14, 2012, staff from the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology were briefed by program officials on follow-up questions the Committee had as a result of the agency's recent announcement regarding the design, development, test, verification, and certification of commercial crew transportation systems prior to contracting for such transportation services. During the teleconference, Committee staff requested that NASA provide its analysis of the impacts of a flat funding profile for the Commercial Crew Program, including the schedule for awarding a transportation services contract to one or more providers, as well as the most probable date for initiation of operational commercial crew transportation services to the International Space Station (ISS). In addition, the Committee is interested in receiving NASA's estimates for the most likely annual cost to NASA for commercial crew transportation services to the ISS [including the cost of any government-provided services or infrastructure] following the initiation of operational services to the ISS as well as the anticipated price per seat for those commercial services. Committee staff were told that such an analysis had not been conducted to date and that completion of such an analysis would need to be requested under our signatures. This letter formalizes the Committee's request and provides additional details on Committee expectations.

In conducting its analysis, NASA should make the following assumptions:

- For FY 2013, NASA's Commercial Crew Program is funded under the likely scenario of six months of funding under a Continuing Resolution totaling \$203 million, with total funding for FY 2013 being no more than \$525 million. All subsequent years would be funded at no more than \$525 million per fiscal year.

Administrator Charles Bolden

Page Two

- All baseline Integrated Capability (CCICap) work established under recently signed Space Act Agreements (SAA) would be completed.
- The cost-shares proposed by each of the selected companies for the baseline and optional milestones needed to achieve a certified, operational capability to provide commercial crew transportation services to the ISS will be used to determine the total amount of industry funding available prior to certification.
- Activities subsequent to the baseline period shall be carried out under FAR-based contract(s).
- Following completion of baseline work, the total cost to NASA of the additional development, testing, verification, validation, and certification work to be completed before operational commercial crew transportation services can be initiated is the summation of the required NASA funding identified by the two selected companies with the lowest and second lowest NASA funding requirements for the optional milestones contained in the Space Act Agreements. If NASA believes that the costs for achieving the milestones through certification will be higher, NASA may adjust the estimates accordingly, but the total amount of NASA funding available on an annual basis for all Commercial Crew-related activities shall be limited by the first assumption stated above regarding FY 2013 and outyear funding.
- The commercial crew transportation flight rate to the ISS through 2020 shall be two missions per year carrying four NASA/International Partner astronauts.

We had assumed NASA would have already conducted such an analysis as part of its planning process to assess the executability of its proposed Commercial Crew Program under most likely—rather than best case—funding scenarios. Given that it has not yet been done, we would request that the analysis, as well as a listing of the assumptions used in the analysis, be completed and provided to the Committee within 90 days of the receipt of this letter.

We are concerned that the budgetary assumptions used to date by NASA in planning the conduct of the Commercial Crew Program have been inconsistent both with the NASA Authorization Act of 2010's \$500 million per year annual funding profile and with subsequent Appropriations Acts that have to date not proposed or appropriated annual funding levels in excess of \$525 million per year. Given that, and given the fiscal constraints that the federal budget is likely to face in the coming years, NASA should not assume that funding in excess of \$525 million per year will be available for the Commercial Crew Program for the foreseeable future. Thus, NASA should not protect for a higher funding rate or level of funding under the Continuing Resolution for the Commercial Crew Program than the amount provided in FY 2012. Protecting for higher levels of funding would hamper other important NASA programs by withholding needed funding. The results of the analysis we are requesting will provide critically needed information for both Congress and NASA as we assess the executability and future direction of the Commercial Crew Program, and we thus look forward to receiving the results of your analysis within the next 90 days.

Administrator Charles Bolden
Page Three

Sincerely,

Ralph M. Hall

Ralph M. Hall
Chairman

Steven M. Palazzo

Steven M. Palazzo
Chairman, Subcommittee on Space
and Aeronautics

Eddie Bernice Johnson

Eddie Bernice Johnson
Ranking Democrat

Jerry Costello

Jerry Costello
Ranking Democrat, Subcommittee
on Space and Aeronautics

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 26, 2012

Reply to Attn of: OLIA/2012-00807:KM:amb

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight
and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your October 12, 2012, letter regarding a request for the Administrator's travel records. I want to assure you that NASA has been in contact with your office regarding this request and we are working diligently to respond.

We will continue to work with your staff on this matter as we complete the response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L. Seth Statler".

L. Seth Statler
Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

cc:
The Honorable Elijah Cummings

OF THE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-8143

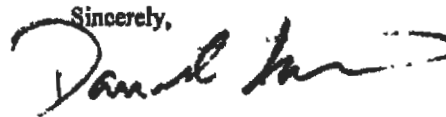
October 12, 2012

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
300 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear General Bolden:

On August 21, 2012, I wrote to you requesting information about your travel as head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The letter is enclosed for your ready reference. Since that time, Committee staff has contacted NASA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, attempting to determine when the agency plans to produce the requested documents. To date, NASA has been unresponsive.

Please produce the requested documents to the Committee without further delay. Absent a complete production, I will have no other alternative but to use compulsory process to obtain this information. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Ashok Pinto or John Zadrozny of the Committee staff at (202) 225-5074. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Darrell Issa
Chairman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Elijah Cummings, Ranking Minority Member

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 5, 2013

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman:

This is in response to your letter of January 18, 2013, requesting information about the potential impacts of the March 1, 2013, sequestration on NASA. Our response articulates impacts of sequestration relative to the President's FY 2013 budget request for NASA of \$17.711.4 million in direct discretionary funding. NASA estimates that a March 1 sequester applied to the annualized levels in the current FY 2013 Continuing Appropriations Resolution (Section 101, P. L. 112-175) would reduce the total NASA funding level to \$16.984.7 million in direct discretionary funding, or \$726.7 million less than the President's FY 2013 budget request, and \$894.1 million less than the annualized levels in the current FY 2013 Continuing Appropriations Resolution.

Overall, for purposes of this assessment, the Agency assumed that the FY 2013 Continuing Resolution, with all of its terms and conditions, would be extended from March 27 to September 30, 2013, and that the sequester would cancel 5.0 percent of the full-year amount, which would be the equivalent of roughly a 9 percent reduction over the remaining seven months of the fiscal year. NASA's assessment of the impacts of a March 1 sequester is presented in the enclosure.

I would be pleased to discuss this information with you in greater detail if you wish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. Bolden", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

Enclosure

Impacts of March 1, 2013, Sequester on FY 2013 President's Budget Request for NASA

Science (President budget request: \$4,911.2 million; -\$51.1 million sequester impact to FY 2013 budget request)

Sequestration would reduce Science by \$51.1 million below the FY 2013 budget request, which would cause NASA to have to take such steps as:

- Reducing funding for new Explorer and Earth Venture Class mission selections by 10 to 15 percent, resulting in lower funding levels for new activities and causing minor launch delays, and
- Reducing funding available for competed research (e.g., "research and analysis") projects by about 2 percent, resulting in about a 5 percent reduction in new awards to support labor/jobs at universities, businesses, and other research entities distributed around the nation this year. Ongoing projects started with awards made prior to this fiscal year would not be affected.

Aeronautics (President budget request: \$551.5 million; -\$7.3 million sequester impact to FY 2013 budget request)

Sequestration would reduce Aeronautics by \$7.3 million below the FY 2013 budget request. The Aeronautics Mission Directorate would need to take cuts to areas such as funding for facilities maintenance and support; air traffic management concept development; systems analysis conducted with the Joint Planning and Development Office; research into safety for vehicle and systems technologies; and research into civil tilt-rotor technologies. These reductions would decrease or delay NASA's ability to develop technologies necessary to enable next generation air traffic management and to ensure needed safety levels. The reductions would also negatively impact NASA's ability to maintain and operate national asset level test facilities to support the related R&D efforts, and would lead to cancellations of ongoing partnerships.

Space Technology (President's budget request: \$699.0 million; -\$149.4 million sequester impact to FY 2013 budget request)

Sequestration would reduce Space Technology by \$149.4 million below the FY 2013 budget request. At that funding level, the Space Technology Mission Directorate cannot maintain its technology portfolio as several projects underway require increased funding in FY 2013 to proceed. Thus NASA would likely have to cancel one of these projects or be able to offer no new awards for programs that vary in scope from research grants, to public-private

partnerships, to in-space demonstrations during FY 2013. NASA would also consider the following:

- Canceling 6 technology development projects, including work in deep space optical communications, advanced radiation protection, nuclear systems, deployable aeroshell concepts, hypersonic inflatable Earth reentry test, and autonomous systems. In addition, the program would consider delaying an additional 9 projects.
- Canceling several flight demonstration projects in development, including the Deep Space Atomic Clock, Cryogenic Propellant Storage and Transfer and the Materials on International Space Station Experiment-X projects.
- Elimination or de-scoping of annual solicitations for Space Technology Research Grants (STRG), NASA Innovative Advanced Concept (NIAC), and the Small Spacecraft Technology (SST) Program.
- Reduction in the number of Flight Opportunity program flights and payloads that could be flown in FY 2013 and beyond.
- Elimination of Centennial Challenges funding to perform new prizes.

Exploration (President's budget request: \$3,932.8 million; -\$332.2 million sequester impact to the FY 2013 budget request)¹

Sequestration would reduce Commercial Space Flight funding by \$441.6 million below the FY 2013 budget request. After sequestration, NASA would not be able to fund milestones planned to be allocated in the fourth quarter of FY 2013 for Commercial Crew Integrated Capability (CCiCap) such as the SpaceX Inflight Abort Test Review, the Boeing Orbital Maneuvering and Attitude Control Engine Development Test, and the Sierra Nevada Corporation Integrated System Safety Analysis Review #2. Overall availability of commercial crew transportation services would be significantly delayed, thereby extending our reliance on foreign providers for crew transportation to the International Space Station.

The sequester would also reduce Exploration Research and Development funding by \$45.5 million below the FY 2013 budget request. For Advanced Exploration Systems, the sequester would delay procurement of critical capabilities required for the next phase of Human Space Exploration. In the Human Research Program (HRP), national research solicitations/selections would be canceled, with the largest impact likely being at the Johnson Space Center. Additionally, reduced resources for the HRP would likely result in reduced funding to the National Space Biomedical Research Institute and delay NASA Space Radiation Laboratory upgrades.

Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration (CECR) (President's budget request: \$619.2 million; -\$251.7 million sequester impact from FY 2013 budget request)¹

For the Construction of Facilities (CoF) program, the \$227.8 million sequester impact would adversely impact the infrastructure needed for NASA's Space Launch System (SLS), Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle, Launch Services, Rocket Propulsion Test, 21st Century Launch Complex, Commercial Crew and Cargo, and Space Communications and Navigation (SCaN) programs.

- Sequestration would leave NASA with almost no funds for Programmatic CoF.
- Sequestration would cancel many institutional construction projects that would repair, refurbish, or replace critical infrastructure that supports NASA's mission. These projects are required to repair NASA's rapidly deteriorating infrastructure in order to protect NASA employees and meet Mission requirements. For Institutional CoF, projects are likely to be cancelled at the following locations:
 - Glenn Research Center
 - Goddard Space Flight Center/ Wallops Flight Facility
 - Jet Propulsion Laboratory
 - Johnson Space Center
 - Kennedy Space Center
 - Langley Research Center
 - Marshall Space Flight Center

For the Environmental Compliance and Restoration program, the \$23.9 million sequester impact would result in numerous delays to projects requiring re-negotiation of agreed upon compliance dates, with the potential for the imposition of fines for non-compliance. The most pronounced impacts would likely occur at the Santa Susana Field Lab, Kennedy Space Center, and White Sands Test Facility.

Office of the Inspector General (President's budget request: \$37.0 million; -\$0.4 million sequester impact from FY 2013 budget request)

Sequestration would reduce the Office of Inspector General by \$0.4 million, which would reduce future hiring and mean that some critical positions are not back-filled. These impacts would likely result in fewer audits and investigations.

¹ The Agency is currently operating under a Continuing Resolution operating plan under which \$53 million was transferred from the Exploration account to the Space Operations account (\$3 million) and the Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration account (\$50 million). The effect of \$53 million in transfers from Exploration to other accounts under the Agency's CR operating plan is not included in this description.

² The effect of a \$50 million transfer from Exploration to CECR Exploration CoF is not included in this description.

DANIEL K. RABOYE, MAJ. GEN., USAF (RETI.)
THIRD DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN

PATRICK J. LEAHY, VERMONT
TOM HARKEN, IOWA
BARBARA M. MYRICK, MARYLAND
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6025
<http://appropriations.senate.gov>

CHARLES F. BOLDEN, JR., STAFF DIRECTOR
BRUCE EVANS, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

January 18, 2013

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
300 E Street, Southwest
Washington, DC 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

The recent fiscal cliff agreement only delayed until March 1, 2013, across-the-board spending cuts totaling \$85 billion, to be shared equally by defense and domestic activities.

I am deeply troubled that the true impacts of this sequester on the operations of the Federal government, and thus the impact on the American people, have not been disclosed. Both the Congress and the American people have a right to know what this means. The public has the right to understand how the services of the government they rely upon will be impacted.

Taxpayers deserve to know, for example: Will Social Security offices have reduced hours? How will timeliness and accuracy of severe weather warnings be affected? How will cuts to State and local education benefits impact local schools and our children? How will cuts impact national security? The Congress and the American public deserve to know what will happen to essential Federal services if sequester is not stopped.

To provide clear answers to questions like these, I am requesting that the leadership of all Federal agencies provide to the Appropriations Committee specific information about the impact that sequester will have on the agency's operations, employees, contractors, and to the extent known, the State and local economies where the agencies operate or distribute funding.

The Budget Control Act of 2011 included more than \$1 trillion in discretionary spending cuts to be enacted over the next 10 years and threatened sequester only if compromise could not be reached on reforms to revenues and mandatory spending. It is imperative that we have a full explanation of the impacts of further cuts on the American economy, its national security, and the essential functions of government.

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
January 18, 2013
Page 2 of 2

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please respond to this request in writing no later than February 1, 2013.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara A. Mikulski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Barbara" being more prominent.

Barbara A. Mikulski
Chairwoman

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



Reply to Attn of:

OLIA/2013-00070i:MDK:amb

February 27, 2013

Mr. David M. Gibbons
Director
Surveys and Investigations Staff
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Gibbons:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter, received on February 25, 2013, requesting a point of contact for obtaining NASA information on data regarding the reprogramming of appropriated funds.

I will serve as the NASA point of contact for this study. I can be reached at (202) 358-1948 or via e-mail at mary.d.kerwin@nasa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary D. Kerwin", written over a horizontal line.

Mary D. Kerwin
Deputy Associate Administrator
for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs



DATE: 2/12/13

**TO: Honorable Bolden
Administrator
NASA**

**FROM: Joyce Stover
House Appropriations Committee
Surveys and Investigations Staff
Washington, D.C. 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-3881
FAX: (202) 225-2112**

**FAX NUMBER: 202-358-2810
TELEPHONE: 202-358-1010**

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Sonya*

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 2

Thank you for your assistance.

Joyce Stover

[illegible]

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515-6015

January 12, 2013

[illegible]

CLARKSON STAFF PROJECTS
1001 10th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone
(202) 338-4771

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
300 E Street
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 202(b), Public Law 601, 79th Congress (codified at 2 U.S.C. § 72 a (b)), this Staff has been directed by the Committee on Appropriations to make an inquiry into the reprogramming of appropriated funds, other actions subject to notification requirements contained in the reprogramming guidance provided in appropriations acts or accompanying explanatory statements, and internal controls employed by Federal Departments and agencies to insure that all actions subject to notification requirements are properly reported to the Appropriations Committees. This inquiry will cover the period FY 2007 through FY 2012. Under separate cover, this Staff will be sending a detailed request for information to your agency.

Please designate an appropriate point of contact to arrange for obtaining the data pertinent to this inquiry and notify my office by telephone within five business days of the receipt of this letter. If there are any questions regarding this matter, I can be contacted on (202) 225-3881.

Sincerely yours,

David W. Fisher

David M. Gibbons
Director
Surveys and Investigations Staff
House Committee on Appropriations

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Administrator
Washington, DC 20546-0001



March 7, 2013

The Honorable Frank Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of March 4, 2013, regarding the upcoming multilateral meeting of the Strategic Implementation Team of the Committee of Earth Observing Satellites at NASA's Langley Research Center and possible representation at the meeting by Chinese representatives. I would like to assure you in the strongest possible terms that NASA is committed to complying with the restrictions of Section 539 of Division B of the FY 2012 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act (P.L. 112-55).

Accordingly, NASA has declined all bilateral engagement with China and Chinese-owned companies. The Agency has not permitted, since the enactment of either Section 1340 of the FY 2011 Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act (P.L. 112-10) or Section 539 of Division B of P.L. 112-55, any visit to a NASA-owned or -utilized facility by any official Chinese visitors where such a visit effectuated the bilateral participation, collaboration, or coordination with China or a Chinese-owned company.

NASA has also suspended all agreements with China and published both a Procurement Information Circular (PIC) (PIC 12-01A) and a Grant Information Circular (GIC) (GIC 12-01) to publicly advise all of its contractors and grantees – including hundreds of U.S. universities that might otherwise receive NASA sponsorship for fundamental scientific research – of the restrictions on the use of NASA funds.

As I have testified previously before the Congress, NASA, in very limited cases, interacts with officials of the Government of China in the context of certain multilateral bodies which include both U.S. and Chinese participation, such as the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS), the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS), and the International Space Exploration Coordination Group (ISECG). By its terms, the

statute makes clear that its limitation on NASA's use of appropriated funds in furtherance of "a bilateral policy, program, order, or contract of any kind to participate, collaborate or coordinate bilaterally in any way with China" also applies to hosting official Chinese visitors at NASA facilities for such bilateral activities. The limitation does not apply to meetings at NASA facilities of multilateral bodies, such as set out above, that include Chinese officials.

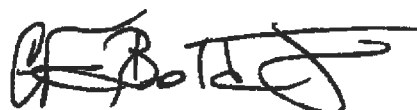
In consultation with Agency counsel, NASA believes that hosting meetings of these multilateral institutions at NASA facilities, including participation by official Chinese visitors as members of these multilateral institutions, is not inconsistent with Section 539(b) of Division B of P.L. 112-55.

As such, in two specific instances, in the case of the International Space University (ISU) at Kennedy Space Center, June 2012, and the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS) and Interagency Operations Advisory Group (IOAG) at KSC, December 10-13, 2012, NASA hosted official Chinese visitors participating exclusively in multilateral meetings under the auspices of these multilateral organizations. While NASA will host the upcoming CEOS Strategic Implementation Team (SIT) meeting at the Langley Research Center, the one representative who registered in accordance with required NASA procedures no longer plans to attend.

In such cases, all NASA Centers are required to follow specific protocols to ensure that visits by foreign nationals from countries such as China do not pose a threat to the Agency's safety or security, including the security of technology. These include limited access only to information that is in the public domain and no access to classified, sensitive but unclassified, or export-controlled information or hardware. All such visitors must be escorted at all times and are not permitted access to any non-public U.S. Government or NASA technical data.

I would be pleased to discuss with you further our committed efforts to comply with statutory restrictions regarding bilateral participation, collaboration, or coordination with China or Chinese-owned companies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Bolden', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Committee on Appropriations

Washington, DC 20515-6015

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CLERK AND STAFF DIRECTOR
 WILLIAM E. INGLE
 TELEPHONE:
 (202) 225-6771

March 4, 2013

Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
 Administrator
 National Aeronautics and Space Administration
 Washington, DC 20546

Dear Administrator Bolden:

It has come to my attention that NASA will be hosting the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Strategic Implementation Team meeting at the Langley Research Center from March 12-14, 2013, and that officials from the government of the People's Republic of China are currently planning to attend.

I am writing to remind you that the hosting of official Chinese visitors at facilities belonging to or utilized by NASA is prohibited by subsection (b) of section 539 of Division B of Public Law (P.L.) 112-55, except in cases where NASA has provided appropriate certifications to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate no later than 14 days prior to the visit.

Because it is now less than 14 days before the commencement of the CEOS meeting and no such certification has been provided, the hosting of any Chinese visitors would be in clear violation of the law. Accordingly, I expect any participation by official Chinese visitors will be promptly cancelled. Please confirm immediately that the necessary actions have been taken to ensure that the conduct of the CEOS meeting does not violate section 539.

Given this lapse of compliance, I am concerned that there may have been other instances where the law has not been followed. I request an immediate review of all center and headquarters visits since the enactment of P.L. 112-55 to ensure that official Chinese visitors have not inappropriately gained access to any NASA facilities. If any such occurrences are found, they should be reported immediately to the Committee.

NASA's violation of section 539 would be particularly surprising given the recent press attention to the threat of Chinese espionage and last month's release of President Obama's "Administration Strategy on Mitigating the Theft of U.S. Trade Secrets". That strategy identifies China as the leading espionage threat and notes the particular interest in "unmanned aerial

vehicles, and other aerospace/aeronautics technologies"—the very work in which the Langley Research Center specializes. Given these stated concerns about the threat of Chinese espionage, I would expect NASA to be more sensitive to compliance with the law restricting the hosting of Chinese government officials at NASA centers.

Additionally, a 2011 report on foreign spies by the Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive noted that "Chinese actors are the world's most active and persistent perpetrators of economic espionage," and singles out the Chinese government as the most "aggressive and capable collectors" of sensitive U.S. technologies. The report also noted that the Chinese "economic espionage programs combine collection of open source information, HUMINT [human intelligence], signals intelligence (SIGINT), and cyber intrusions..."

It is for these very serious reasons that I authored the statute limiting NASA's collaboration with the Chinese government and remain committed to ensuring strict compliance with the law. I look forward to your prompt reply.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Wolf
Chairman
House Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science and Related Agencies

THIS IS IMPORTANT

1/11/11