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*"Rummaging in the government's attic"*

Description of document:	Copies of all National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) letter correspondence with Congressman Jim Bridenstine from a search of the Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, 2015-2016
Requested date:	02-September-2017
Released date:	29-September-2017
Posted date:	21-May-2018
Source of document:	NASA Headquarters 300 E Street, SW Room 5Q16 Washington, DC 20546 Fax: (202) 358-4332 Email: <a href="mailto:hq-foia@nasa.gov">hq-foia@nasa.gov</a>

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National Aeronautics and Space Administration

**Headquarters**

Washington, DC 20546-0001



September 29, 2017

Office of Communications

FOIA: 17-HQ-F-01102

Thank you for your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated September 2, 2017, and received on September 5, 2017, at the NASA Headquarters FOIA Office. Your request was assigned FOIA Case Number 17-HQ-F-01102 and was for:

“A copy of all letter correspondence with Congressman Jim Bridenstine during the years 2012 to present, from a search of the Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs.”

The NASA Headquarters program office(s) conducted a search for Agency records, using the above criteria. Please be advised, we did not include a copy of "NASA's Journey to Mars: Pioneering Next Steps in Space Exploration," because it was originally posted online on October 8, 2015. Attached is the information you requested.

In accordance with NASA's FOIA Regulation fees are under \$50.00, and are not being charged in accordance with 14 CFR § 1206.503(c). Please contact me at [hq-foia@nasa.gov](mailto:hq-foia@nasa.gov) or (202) 358-2462 for further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josephine Sibley".

Josephine Sibley  
HQ FOIA Public Liaison Officer

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

2321 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6301

(202) 225-6371  
[www.science.house.gov](http://www.science.house.gov)

January 29, 2015

Mr. Steven Clarke  
Director  
Joint Agency Satellite Division  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
300 E Street, SW  
Suite 9L39  
Washington, DC 20546

Dear Mr. Clarke,

The Subcommittees on Environment and Oversight will hold a joint hearing entitled *Bridging the Gap: An Update on the Nation's Weather Satellite Programs* on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in room 2318 of the Rayburn House Office Building. We would like to request your presence to testify at this hearing.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive an update on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) polar-orbiting and geostationary weather satellite programs and discuss recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports on the two programs. In addition, the hearing will focus on the downstream use of satellite data in operational and research weather models and prediction methods.

Your testimony should review the cost, schedule, performance and program management objectives associated with the polar-orbiting and geostationary weather satellite programs and your collaboration with the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration in assuring the development and delivery of those satellites. Please also describe the use of satellite data within your agency and the potential impact a gap in satellite data would have on your agency's research activities. Where appropriate, please respond to the findings of the recently released Government Accountability Office reports on weather satellites.

In order to allow sufficient time for questions at the hearing, you should highlight the most significant points of your testimony in an oral presentation of no more than five minutes. You are requested to submit a written statement, which may be of any reasonable length and may contain supplemental materials; however, please be aware that the Committee cannot guarantee that supplemental material will be included in the printed hearing record. Please include a one-page summary of the major points you wish to make. Oral statements and answers to Member questions will be printed as part of the verbatim record of the hearing; only technical, grammatical, and typographical errors will be corrected.

Witnesses testifying before the Subcommittee on Environment and Subcommittee on Oversight must observe procedures governing witness testimony. These procedures are described in the following enclosures and provide important details concerning the preparation and presentation of your testimony before the Subcommittees on February 12, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

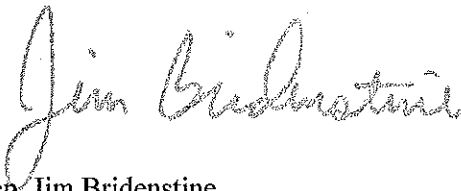
- The first enclosure outlines the rules governing appearance before the Committee.
- The second enclosure provides you with the Committee's Hearing Room Capabilities.
- The third enclosure provides you with the Truth-In-Testimony Instructions and the Truth-In-Testimony Disclosure Form.

Please email your testimony, biography, and truth-in-testimony form, in a searchable PDF format, to Taylor Jordan at [Taylor.Jordan@mail.house.gov](mailto:Taylor.Jordan@mail.house.gov) as soon as it is available, but not less than 48 hours before the hearing. Sixty-five printed copies of your testimony and biography, and one original, signed copy of your truth-in-testimony, must be hand delivered to the Committee's main office, Room 2321 Rayburn, 48 hours before the hearing. Due to increased security measures in place at House office buildings, you will need to contact Mr. Jordan at (202) 225-6371 to arrange for the delivery of your testimony. We recommend that you attach your biography to the testimony.

In addition, if you wish to use the Committee's multimedia facilities, a description of which is enclosed, please contact Committee IT staff at [SSTIT@mail.house.gov](mailto:SSTIT@mail.house.gov). Our staff can usually accommodate most requests with 72 hours notice.

If you have any questions concerning any aspect of your testimony, please contact Taylor Jordan of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology staff at (202) 225-6371. We look forward to your participation in the hearing.

Sincerely,



Rep. Jim Bridenstine  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Environment



Rep. Barry Loudermilk  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Oversight

Enclosures      (1) Rules Governing Appearance before the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology  
                      (2) Hearing Room Capabilities  
                      (3) Truth-In-Testimony Instructions and Truth-In-Testimony Disclosure Form

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: WITNESSES APPEARING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY DURING THE 114<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS**

**FROM: COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY**

**RE: RULES GOVERNING APPEARANCE BEFORE THE COMMITTEE**

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The following procedures govern witnesses appearing before the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology for the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress:

1. The Rules of the Committee require you to complete the attached **Truth-In-Testimony Disclosure Form** to disclose the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) or any foreign government payments received during the current fiscal year or either of the two previous fiscal years by you or by an entity represented by you which are relevant to the subject matter of your testimony or the hearing at which you are testifying. Should you need extra space, please provide additional information on a separate sheet of paper.
2. You must submit to the Committee a **draft copy of your written testimony no less than 72 hours**, excluding weekends and Federal holidays, before you are to testify.
3. **No less than 48 hours**, excluding weekends and Federal holidays, before you are to testify, you must also submit to the Committee:
  - An **electronic copy of your final written testimony**, preferably in searchable PDF format, including any supporting graphs, charts, or slideshows. This electronic version will be posted on the Committee website, and will be accessible by the public.
  - **Forty-five (45) hard copies of your final written testimony**, including any supporting graphs, charts, or materials;
  - An **electronic copy of a short narrative biography**;
  - **Forty-five (45) hard copies of a short narrative biography**;
  - **Two (2) hard copies of your Curriculum Vitae**; and

- **Two (2) hard copies, including one signed original, of your completed Truth-In-Testimony Disclosure Form.**

5. You must notify the Committee **no later than 48 hours** before you are to testify **if you want to use any multimedia capabilities** as provided by the hearing room, and must provide all material to be presented in this fashion in hard copy form to the Committee. Please see *Enclosure 2* for further explanation of hearing room capabilities.

If you are using any of the room's multimedia capabilities, you or your designee **must arrive no less than 30 minutes before the designated start time of the hearing** to allow for set-up. Failure to do so may result in the multimedia portion of the presentation being canceled.

6. Transcripts of hearings conducted by the Committee shall be published in substantially verbatim form, subject only to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections.

NOTE: Section 210 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 applies the rights and protections covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to the United States Congress. Accordingly, the Committee on Science and Technology strives to accommodate / meet the needs of those requiring special assistance. If you need special accommodation or require materials in alternative formats, please contact the Committee on Science and Technology in advance of the scheduled event (3 days requested) by telephone at (202) 225-6371, by facsimile at (202) 226-0113, or TTY (202) 226-4410.

**COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY  
HEARING ROOM CAPABILITIES**

**Equipment Capabilities**

- A) PROJECTOR—The hearing room is equipped with a ceiling-mounted projector capable of displaying computer graphics and video feed.
- B) DROP DOWN VIDEO SCREEN—The rear of the hearing room is equipped with a large drop down screen viewable from the dais and side seats.
- C) WALL-MOUNTED LCD MONITORS—The hearing room is equipped with two monitors, one on each side of the room, for audience viewing.
- D) WITNESS MONITOR – A monitor will also be in place in front of the witness table so witnesses can see the screen, as well.

**Computer- Based Presentation**

Please bring your presentation on a memory stick (flash drive, thumb drive) or on your personal laptop to the hearing room at least a half-hour before the hearing so that we may help you set it up at the witness table. If you bring your presentation on a laptop, your laptop should be equipped with a functioning graphics port with either a VGA or MAC external connector. Because there are many makes and models of laptops, please be prepared to operate the external graphics port for your own laptop.

**Audiovisual/Multimedia Capabilities**

- A) The room supports the following transmission methods to broadcast committee activities to remote sites:
  - 1. Telephone Conferencing (Audio Only).
  - 2. Live Audio-Video Streaming (Webcasting).
  - 3. Video Teleconferencing.
  - 4. Video and Audio overflow transmission to room 2325.
- B) The room receives House Cable TV feeds for display.
- C) The hearing room equipment can playback and display compact discs, dvd discs, and overhead slides.

**Equipment Support**

Questions should be directed to Committee IT staff at [SSTIT@mail.house.gov](mailto:SSTIT@mail.house.gov).

## Enclosure 3

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### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE TRUTH-IN-TESTIMONY DISCLOSURE FORM

***In General.*** The accompanying form is intended to assist witnesses appearing before the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology Subcommittees on Oversight and Research & Technology in complying with Rule XI, clause 2(g)(5) of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The rule requires that:

*In the case of a witness appearing in a nongovernmental capacity, a written statement of proposed testimony shall include a curriculum vitae and a disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current fiscal year or either of the two previous fiscal years by the witness or by an entity represented by the witness. Such statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of the witness shall be made publicly available in electronic form not later than one day after the witness appears.*

**Please complete the form in accordance with these directions.**

1. ***Name (Item 1 on the form).*** Please provide the name of the witness in the box at the top of the form.
2. ***Governmental Entity (Item 2).*** Please check the box indicating whether or not the witness is testifying on behalf of a government entity, such as a Federal department or agency, or a State or local department, agency, or jurisdiction. Trade or professional associations of public officials are not considered to be governmental organizations.
3. ***Nongovernmental Entity (Item 3).*** Please check the box indicating whether or not the witness is testifying on behalf of an entity that is not a governmental entity.
4. ***Entity(ies) to be Represented (Item 4).*** Please list all entities on whose behalf the witness is testifying.
5. ***Grants and Contracts (Item 5).*** Please list any Federal grants or contracts (including subgrants or subcontracts) that the witness personally or the entity the witness is representing has received from the Federal Government on or after October 1, 2011.
6. ***Representational Capacity (Item 6).*** If the answer to the question in item 2 is yes, please characterize the capacity in which the witness is testifying on behalf of the entities listed in item 4.
7. ***Affiliated Entities (Item 7).*** Please indicate whether the entity on whose behalf the witness is testifying has parent organizations, subsidiaries, or partnerships that are not represented by the testimony of the witness.
8. ***Grants and Contracts (Item 8).*** Please disclose grants and contracts as directed.
9. ***Submission.*** Please sign and date the form in the appropriate place. Please submit this form with your written testimony. Please note that under the Committee's rules, copies of a written statement of your proposed testimony must be submitted before the commencement of the hearing. To the greatest extent practicable, please also provide a copy in electronic



### Enclosure 3

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format, preferably in searchable pdf format. Written testimony and the Truth-In-Testimony disclosure form will be made publicly available and posted on the Committee's website.

**Committee on Science, Space, and Technology**

**U.S. House of Representatives**

Witness Disclosure Requirement - "Truth in Testimony"

Required by House Rule XI, Clause 2(g)(5)

1. Your Name:		
2. Are you testifying on behalf of the Federal, or a State or local government entity?	Yes	No
3. Are you testifying on behalf of an entity that is not a government entity?	Yes	No
4. Other than yourself, please list which entity or entities you are representing:		
5. Please list any Federal grants or contracts (including subgrants or subcontracts) that <u>you or the entity you represent have received</u> on or after October 1, 2011:		
6. If your answer to the question in item 3 in this form is "yes," please describe your position or representational capacity with the entity(ies) you are representing:		
7. If your answer to the question in item 3 is "yes," do any of the entities disclosed in item 4 have parent organizations, subsidiaries, or partnerships that you are not representing in your testimony?	Yes	No
8. If the answer to the question in item 3 is "yes," please list any Federal grants or contracts (including subgrants or subcontracts) that were received by the entities listed under the question in item 4 on or after October 1, 2011, that exceed 10 percent of the revenue of the entities in the year received, including the source and amount of each grant or contract to be listed:		

I certify that the above information is true and correct.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 26, 2016

The Honorable Ash Carter  
Secretary of Defense  
Department of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1000

The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro  
Comptroller General  
Government Accountability Office  
441 G St NW  
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Secretary Carter and Comptroller General Dodaro:

In light of the passage of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 in the House of Representatives on May 18, 2016, we write to you in regards to the study on the use of surplus intercontinental ballistic missiles motors for the use of commercial space launches that the Department of Defense is required to undertake, and the follow up assessment required of the Government Accountability Office (GAO). As members of Congress committed to safeguarding our assured access to space while promoting the domestic launch industrial base, we find this study and assessment to be of the utmost importance.

Although changes to the policy governing the use of decommissioned U.S. ICBM motors could allow United States launch providers to compete for payloads that might otherwise launch overseas, a thorough review is needed to understand how this would impact the domestic launch industrial base. It is vital for Congress to have a complete and balanced picture of the impacts of changes to the policy covering the transfer of ballistic missiles.

To ensure Congress gets the information needed to make informed policy decisions, we respectfully request that the Department's study and GAO's assessment consider the following:

1. A list of commercial payloads manufactured in the United States which have launched over the past 10 years or are scheduled to launch in the next 5 years on foreign space transportation providers, including, for each payload, the following information:
  - a. Date of launch;
  - b. Mass;
  - c. Status as primary or secondary payload;
  - d. Total aggregated payload mass for the launch; and
  - e. Launch vehicle used;
2. An assessment of any impact that expanded transfer of these assets could have on the ability of existing or planned U.S. commercial launch capabilities to meet national security requirements;
3. An assessment of the impact of expanded transfers on U.S. nonproliferation

objectives;

4. An assessment of any potential government cost savings, estimated proceeds from the sale of such assets and any additional costs incurred by the government by transferring these assets;
5. An evaluation of the impact of minimum payload mass and payload aggregation restrictions to the market value of such assets and to the U.S. commercial space transportation industrial base;
6. Possible methodologies for determining the fair market value of assets to be transferred;
7. An assessment of potential impacts on private sector investment in the U.S. commercial space transportation industry;
8. A range of options available to the Department of Defense for making these assets broadly available for use by the U.S. commercial space transportation industry;
9. An assessment of the impact that expanded transfer of these assets has on state-owned and operated spaceports; and
10. An assessment of the economic impact that expanded transfer of these assets has on providing commercial launch services to international users.

Further, given the wide range of potential effects, we strongly encourage the Department and the GAO to seek out and utilize the expertise of other entities familiar with this subject. This includes, but is not limited to, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and representatives of the U.S. commercial space transportation industry, including launch providers, satellite manufacturers, and spaceports.

Thank you for your attention to this timely and important issue, and we look forward to the Department's briefing on the subject by September 1, 2016, and the GAO's assessment 90 days after.

Sincerely,



Kevin McCarthy  
Majority Leader



Rob Bishop  
Member of Congress



Jim Bridenstine  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Penny Pritzker, Secretary of Commerce  
The Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary of Transportation  
The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr., NASA Administrator



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



February 12, 2016

Reply to Attn of:

OLIA/2016:RI:eel

The Honorable Jim Bridenstine  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Bridenstine:

Please find enclosed, for your information, a copy of "NASA's Journey to Mars: Pioneering Next Steps In Space Exploration," originally posted online on October 8, 2015.

Today, NASA is closer to sending American astronauts to Mars than at any previous point in the Agency's history. This document provides details about our journey to Mars strategy and how we are aligning our exploration, science, and technology development efforts in support of this goal. NASA's strategy shows how the International Space Station; Space Launch System; Orion crew vehicle; Asteroid Redirect Mission; the Mars 2020 rover; research on entry, descent, and landing; and other current and planned capabilities comprise essential steps on the journey to Mars and a sustainable human presence in deep space. This strategy charts a course toward horizon goals while delivering near-term benefits. It defines a resilient architecture that can accommodate budgetary changes, political priorities, new scientific discoveries, technological breakthroughs, and evolving partnerships.

NASA is leading our Nation and the world on a journey to Mars. We are pleased to provide you with this copy of our strategy.

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



# NASA's JOURNEY TO MARS

Pioneering Next Steps  
in Space Exploration

