



governmentattic.org

"Rummaging in the government's attic"

Description of document: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
Correspondence between NASA and Energia Corporation
or Roscosmos, 2017-2019

Requested date: 04-November-2019

Release date: 02-January-2020

Posted date: 08-June-2020

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

The governmentattic.org web site ("the site") is a First Amendment free speech web site, and is noncommercial and free to the public. The site and materials made available on the site, such as this file, are for reference only. The governmentattic.org web site and its principals have made every effort to make this information as complete and as accurate as possible, however, there may be mistakes and omissions, both typographical and in content. The governmentattic.org web site and its principals shall have neither liability nor responsibility to any person or entity with respect to any loss or damage caused, or alleged to have been caused, directly or indirectly, by the information provided on the governmentattic.org web site or in this file. The public records published on the site were obtained from government agencies using proper legal channels. Each document is identified as to the source. Any concerns about the contents of the site should be directed to the agency originating the document in question. GovernmentAttic.org is not responsible for the contents of documents published on the website.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



Office of Communications

January 2, 2020

FOIA: 20-HQ-F-00092

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated and received at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Headquarters FOIA Office on November 4, 2019. Your request was assigned FOIA Case Number 20-HQ-F-00092 and was for:

I request all letter correspondence between (TO and/or FROM) NASA Headquarters and Roscosmos (Russia State Space Corporation).

I also request all letter correspondence between (TO and/or FROM) NASA Headquarters and Energia Space Rocket Corporation.

I limit this request to letter correspondence dated between January 1, 2017, and the present.

I agree to accept the results of a search of NASA Headquarters Central Correspondence Files.

In response to your request, a search was conducted by the NASA Offices of the International and Interagency Relations, Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate, and the Office of the Administrator, using the information you provided in your request, specifically "Energia Space Rocket Corporation, and Roscosmos Russia State Space Corporation." Their searches located documents consisting of 50 pages in response to your request. Please be advised, that 28 pages are being referred to the Department of State, for a release determination, with a direct response to you. The remaining 22 pages are being released in part as portions of the documents are being withheld pursuant to FOIA Exemption 5 U.S.C. §552 (b)(6). Attached are the documents NASA is releasing in part that are responsive to your request.

FOIA Exemption 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6), “. . . exempts from mandatory disclosure personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” NASA is invoking Exemption 6 to protect NASA employee’s work cell phone number.

You have the right under 14 CFR §1206.700 to appeal this determination within 90 days from the date of this letter. Your appeal must be in writing and should be addressed to:

Administrator
NASA Headquarters
Executive Secretariat
MS 9R17
Washington, DC 20546
ATTN: FOIA Appeals

Your appeal should be marked “Appeal under the Freedom of Information Act” both on the envelope and the face of the letter. A copy of your initial request along with a copy of this correspondence and any other correspondence with the FOIA office must be enclosed. To expedite the appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should also contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this response to be in error.

You may contact NASA’s Chief FOIA Public Liaison, to obtain further assistance or seek dispute resolution services for any aspect of your request. You may also send correspondence to Ms. Fox at the following address:

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
NASA Headquarters
Attn: Stephanie Fox
300 E Street, S.W., 5P32
Washington D.C. 20546
Email: stephanie.k.fox@nasa.gov
Telephone: 202 -358-1553
Fax: 202-358-4331

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA dispute resolution services it offers. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001
Email: ogis@nara.gov
Telephone: (202) 741-5770

Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Fax: (202) 741-5769

Important: Please note that contacting any agency official including the undersigned or NASA's Principal FOIA Officer and/or OGIS referenced above is not an alternative to filing an administrative appeal and does not stop the 90-day appeal clock.

In accordance with § 1206.804 (c), after consultation with the NASA Headquarters General Counsel Office, I am the official responsible for the partial denial of your request.

For your convenience, we are including the FOIA contact information to the Department of State which is:

U. S. Department of State
A/GIS/IPS/PP
2201 C Street N.W., Suite B266
Washington, D. C. 20520-0000
Email: RobinsonKN@state.gov
Phone: 202-261-8484
Facsimile: 202-485-1799

Fees for processing this request are less than \$50.00 and are not being charged in accordance with 14 CFR §1206.503(c). If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at Josephine.sibley or (202) 358-2462.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Josephine Sibley".

Josephine Sibley
Headquarters
FOIA Public Liaison Officer

Hall, Gina S. (HQ-AH000)

From: Spencer, Bridgette M. (HQ-TA000)
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 11:58 AM
To: Hall, Gina S. (HQ-AH000)
Subject: FW: USCV Certification Letter
Attachments: 2017-09-04 Komarov to Lightfoot re USCV certification (eng).docx; 2017-09-04 Komarov to Lightfoot re USCV Certification (rus).pdf

Follow Up Flag: FollowUp
Flag Status: Flagged

Good Afternoon,

Please log this correspondence for *Lightfoot* and assign to OIIR.

Thank you,

BMS

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



October 21, 2019

Dr. Dmitry Rogozin
General Director
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996

Dear General Director Rogozin:

I am greatly saddened by the news of legendary cosmonaut Alexey Leonov's passing. Since his famous space walk in 1965, General Leonov served as an inspiration to generations of space explorers. The historic handshake in space during the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project in July 1975 paved the way to our collaboration on programs such as Shuttle-Mir and the International Space Station. Please convey my sincere condolences to General Leonov's wife, Svetlana, his daughter, and grandchildren.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Bridenstine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

James F. Bridenstine
Administrator

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



January 9, 2019

Dr. Dmitry Rogozin
General Director
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

Dear Dr. Rogozin:

I am writing to inform you that the invitation that I extended to you on December 7, 2018, to visit NASA's facilities in the United States in February will need to be rescinded. Recognizing the implications of this decision, I wanted to reaffirm that NASA greatly values its longstanding and very successful cooperation with Roscosmos, and that I appreciated the hospitality that you and your staff extended to me during my visit to Roscosmos' facilities in Russia and Kazakhstan last October. Let me stress that the withdrawal of this invitation is not intended to affect our ongoing and planned cooperation and that regular engagements between NASA and Roscosmos specialists either in the United States or Russia are expected to continue without any interruption.

As we have discussed on many previous occasions, it is critically important for the safety of the flight of our astronauts and cosmonauts that NASA and Roscosmos be able to maintain a frank and open dialogue at all levels, now and in the future. Working through your staff, I have requested a teleconference with you at the earliest opportunity to discuss this matter further.

Thank you for your continuing support of our cooperation and I look forward to talking with you again in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Bridenstine".

James F. Bridenstine
Administrator

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



October 24, 2019

Dr. Dmitry Rogozin
General Director
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russian Federation

Dear Dr. Rogozin:

Thank you for your October 3, 2019, letter regarding our cooperation on the International Space Station (ISS). As you noted, the ISS enables important research while preparing us for future human exploration missions beyond low-Earth orbit. On the basis of detailed reviews, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) specialists believe the ISS can be safely and effectively operated well beyond 2024. The U.S. Government is discussing ISS extension internally and NASA will implement ISS operations beyond 2024 if directed by the President and Congress.

Congratulations on the successful launch of 61 Soyuz and the successful landing of 58 Soyuz. Thank you for your continued support for crew transportation to and from the ISS which is essential to the success of our joint program. Meanwhile, U.S. crew vehicle development continues to progress. Each provider will complete a robust test and certification program, including launch abort tests, before ISS crew rotation flights are authorized. However, experience has shown that issues may arise during testing and certification that could affect flight schedules. As I think you will agree, it is essential to maintain a U.S. astronaut presence on the ISS to enable critical U.S. operational segment functions. To ensure a U.S. presence, NASA is interested in acquiring a seat on the fall 2020 Soyuz mission (63 Soyuz) and a seat on the spring 2021 Soyuz mission (64 Soyuz). This will protect against additional U.S. crew vehicle delays and provide margin to allow U.S. providers to safely prepare for sustained crew transportation operations.

I look forward to your response on the proposals outlined above. Thank you for your continued commitment to our partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Bridenstine".

James F. Bridenstine
Administrator

Dmitry-

I hope you are well. I look forward to talking soon.
Jim B.

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



October 26, 2018

Dr. Dmitry Rogozin
General Director
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

Dear Dr. Rogozin:

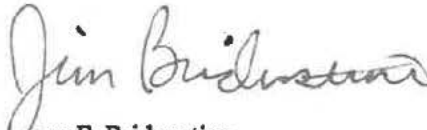
Thank you for your wonderful hospitality during my recent visit to Russia and Kazakhstan and your kind letter of October 15, 2018. It was a powerful experience to witness our NASA and Roscosmos teams working together so effectively even under adverse circumstances, and especially in ensuring the crew's safety. As we discussed, this experience underscored the value of dissimilarly redundant crew delivery systems to resiliency in the ISS program and demonstrated the significance of our partnership for addressing any unforeseen circumstances.

As I said in Moscow, you have NASA's full support in the Soyuz MS-10 investigation process. Given that NASA and the other International Partners currently rely on the Soyuz launch vehicle for safe access to the ISS, I ask that Russian experts work with Mr. Bill Gerstenmaier and his team to ensure that NASA understands the root cause of this anomaly and the recommended resolution. Mr. Gerstenmaier will be in Moscow on October 31 – November 1, 2018, to discuss these important issues and identify specific ways NASA can provide support during the Soyuz MS-10 commission process.

I would also like to thank you for supporting my visit to the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center and my presentation at Moscow State University. When I visited Star City, I heard first-hand about the significant bonds established between crew members from the United States, Russia, and other international partners. I was honored to speak at Moscow State University, and I look forward to sending you a formal invitation to join me at my alma mater, Rice University in Houston, Texas, in the very near future. Thank you also for the replica of Yuri Gagarin's watch, it will serve as a treasured reminder of my first visit to Russia.

I remain eager to synchronize our plans for lunar exploration. Mr. Gerstenmaier will be the NASA point-of-contact for this dialogue. I look forward to further discussing how we can work together to advance space cooperation between the United States and Russia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jim Bridenstine".

James F. Bridenstine
Administrator

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



December 7, 2018

Dr. Dmitry Rogozin
General Director
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

Dear Dr. Rogozin:

Following up on our recent discussions around the Soyuz 56S launch, I am writing to invite you to visit and tour NASA's facilities at the Johnson Space Center in Texas and the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. My wife, Michelle, will accompany me in hosting your visit to Texas, and I would be honored if Tatiana could join us there as well. These Centers embody NASA's proud history of human spaceflight and are home to the technical teams and hardware that will propel the human space exploration missions of the future. Following your visit to these Centers, I would also like to invite you to NASA Headquarters (HQ) in Washington, DC, to continue our discussions on current and future cooperation between NASA and the State Space Corporation Roscosmos.

I propose your visit take place in the February 19 - 26, 2019, timeframe to allow sufficient time for transit between our Centers and HQ. With your concurrence, my staff is prepared to coordinate the specific details of your visit to our Centers. Should you have any questions regarding this invitation, please feel free to have your staff contact Mr. Al Condes, Associate Administrator for International and Interagency Relations.

Thank you again for your hospitality during my recent visit to Russia and Kazakhstan, and I look forward to the opportunity to reciprocate during your visit next year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Jim Bridenstine".
James F. Bridenstine
Administrator

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



March 28, 2018

Reply to Attn of: Office of International and Interagency Relations

Mr. Igor Komarov
General Director
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

Igor

Dear Mr. Komarov:

It is my pleasure to extend an invitation for you to visit the NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston, Texas, on April 19-20, 2018. As you know, JSC plays a critical role in our cooperation on the International Space Station, and I hope you will enjoy the opportunity to tour the facilities and meet with the people who work every day to ensure the continued success and safety of our crews on orbit.

We are also pleased to offer assistance with arranging clearance for your charter aircraft, both to attend the National Space Symposium meetings in Colorado Springs, Colorado, as well as your visit to JSC. Please have your staff coordinate the details for your visit with the NASA Russia Representative, Mr. Justin Tilman, who can be reached via email at justin.tilman@nasa.gov, or by phone at (b) (6).

Please feel free to reach out to me or my staff if you require any assistance in preparation for, or during, your visit to JSC.

Sincerely,

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

Al Condes
Associate Administrator
for International and Interagency Relations

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



November 20, 2018

Reply to Attn of:

Office of International and Interagency Relations

Dr. Dmitry Rogozin
General Director
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

Dear Dr. Rogozin:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration extends an official invitation to Mr. Sergey Krikalev to visit the United States to participate in anniversary events celebrating the 20th anniversary of the launch of the first module to the International Space Station. The anniversary events will take place at Kennedy Space Center in Florida during the week of December 10, 2018.

Thank you for your continued commitment to space cooperation between our countries.

Sincerely,

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

Al Condes
Associate Administrator
for International and Interagency Relations

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



April 23, 2018

Reply to Attn of:

Office of International and Interagency Relations

Mr. Sergey Saveliev
Deputy Director General
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

SEVGEY

Dear Mr. Saveliev:

Thank you for your letter of March 26, 2018, to Mr. Gerstenmaier requesting clarification on the potential impacts of certain provisions of the Fiscal Year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 115-91) on NASA-Roscosmos cooperation as well as your question regarding whether Roscosmos has been identified as being within the scope of existing U.S. Government sanctions.

It is NASA's assessment that currently, neither the law nor the sanctions imposed by this law are expected to negatively impact NASA civil space cooperation with Roscosmos. For clarification related to the effects of sanctions on Russian space activities other than Roscosmos civil space cooperation with NASA, the U.S. Treasury Department Office of Foreign Assets Control maintains a comprehensive and up-to-date compilation of U.S. sanctions that can be used to determine whether an individual or organization has been sanctioned. This information is available at: <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Pages/Programs.aspx>

I hope this information is helpful. As ever, I appreciate your continued commitment to civil space cooperation between NASA and Roscosmos.

Sincerely,

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

Al Condes
Associate Administrator
for International and Interagency Relations

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



June 13, 2019

Reply to Attn of:

Office of International and Interagency Relations

Mr. Sergey Saveliev
Deputy General Director for International Relations
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

Dear Mr. Saveliev:

I wish to bring to your attention that the newly selected NASA Russia Representative at the United States Embassy in Moscow has not received his diplomatic visa and seek your assistance in resolving this important issue. Mr. Jon Shearer's diplomatic visa application was submitted to the Russian Embassy in the United States on April 25, 2019. Mr. Shearer is currently in the United States awaiting visa approval, and my intent is to send Mr. Shearer to Moscow as soon as his visa is issued.

I would like to reinforce the importance of assigning Mr. Shearer to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow as quickly as possible to support the significant bilateral space initiatives and collaboration between NASA and Roscosmos. Consistent with your commitment when we talked earlier this year, I request your support to help expedite visa processing for Mr. Shearer.

Thank you for your consideration in this important matter. I look forward to seeing you on the margins of the Paris Air Show.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Condes".

Al Condes
Associate Administrator
for Office of International and Interagency Relations

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



November 12, 2019

Reply to Attn of:

Office of International and Interagency Relations

Mr. Sergey Krikalev
Executive Director for Human Spaceflight Programs
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sergey", written over the printed name.

Dear Mr. Krikalev:

I would like to express my sincere condolences on the loss of Academician Nikolay Apollonovich Anfinov. As the director of TsNIImash from 2000 to 2008, Academician Anfinov played a significant role in our cooperation on the International Space Station (ISS). As co-chair of the U.S.-Russian Joint Commission for 11 years, it would be hard to overestimate Academician Anfinov's contributions to U.S. - Russian space cooperation. He provided steady leadership at a challenging time, enabling his American colleagues on the Joint Commission to discover what his Russian colleagues long knew - that he was a highly skilled engineer and program manager with keen insights and sound judgement. His American colleagues discovered other important aspects about him - that he was a warm and kind human being with a big heart.

Along with General Thomas Stafford, Academician Anfinov and the members of the Joint Commission provided invaluable expertise that assisted NASA's effort to return to flight after the Shuttle Columbia accident. During that period, he championed the idea of allowing U.S. astronauts to fly to the ISS aboard the Soyuz, a legacy that benefits our partnership to this day. Please relay my heartfelt condolences to Nikolay Appollonovich's family and colleagues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Condes", written over the printed name.

Al Condes
Associate Administrator
for Office of International and Interagency Relations

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



September 11, 2017

Mr. Igor Komarov
General Director
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

Dear Mr. Komarov:

Thank you for your correspondence dated September 4, 2017, regarding certification of the new U.S. Commercial Vehicles (USCV). I appreciate and support your goal of reviewing the USCV data to ensure safety of the crew, the International Space Station (ISS), and visiting vehicles. NASA understands the importance of each ISS international partner's assessment of the safety and readiness of these vehicles and remains committed to providing data on the most expedited timeline possible. Acknowledging that NASA does not yet have all the requisite information from the commercial providers, please allow me to detail the information provided to date and mechanisms to provide further information as it becomes available, commensurate with USCV timelines.

At the March 2017 Space Station Control Board (SSCB), the NASA ISS Program Manager, Mr. Kirk Shireman, committed to provide the Roscosmos ISS Program Manager Mr. Alexey Strelnikov, as well as the other ISS Partner Program Managers, a quarterly status of USCV data exchange. The most recent of these letters was sent on September 11, 2017 (enclosed for reference). NASA provided USCV requirements to all ISS international partners in October 2015 and vehicle-specific information for the Boeing CST-100 and SpaceX Dragon beginning with the October 2016 Multilateral Safety & Mission Assurance Control Board (MS&MACB). Since that time, multiple data exchange channels have been established and a multilateral database has been created to track data requests from all ISS international partners. Each partner has designated personnel with access to the database, including full access to data requested from all the international partners. A regular bilateral teleconference has also been established. The first was conducted in August 2017 and included representatives from Roscosmos, RSC-Energia, TsNIIMASH, the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center, and the Institute for Biomedical Problems.

To date, substantial information has been provided and additional data is being prepared. In the area of safety, deliveries have been made which honor the commitment to provide "Phase II complete approved" integrated and vehicle-level hazard reports (HRs). NASA has delivered nine SpaceX Dragon Integrated, five Dragon Vehicle HRs, seven Boeing CST-100

Integrated, and ten CST-100 Vehicle HRs. Also, during the June 2017 MS&MACB, NASA presented Commercial Crew Program certification status and the program risk management processes that would benefit crew safety. At the same meeting, the Chairs of the ISS Safety Review Panel and Commercial Crew Program (CCP) Safety and Technical Review Board provided detailed status on the HRs. Side sessions were also held to address additional questions and concerns.

Moving forward, NASA plans for the existing multilateral forums to expand discussions for their respective areas of responsibility, including the SSCB, MS&MACB, Multilateral Crew Operations Panel, Multilateral Medical Operations Panel, Multilateral Systems Engineering & Integration Control Board, International Training Control Board, and Generic Joint Operations Panel. Deliveries of mission operations overview and system description documents are scheduled for November and December 2017, respectively. Both documents will aid in the understanding of the vehicle operations and more complex vehicle hazards. In addition, the NASA team will conduct Flight Events Technical Interchange Meetings (TIMs) to focus on the more complicated flight events and hazards as discussed at the June MS&MACB. The first TIM is scheduled for November 6-10, 2017, at the Johnson Space Center and will focus on CST-100 Rendezvous, Proximity, Operations, Docking, and Undocking (RPODU) as well as CST-100 and Dragon docked phases. In December, the MS&MACB at the Kennedy Space Center will discuss CST-100 and Dragon prelaunch phases with an opportunity for the teams to tour ground and launch facilities. A plan for future data exchanges and meetings was presented to all ISS partners at the Multilateral Coordination Board meeting on September 7, 2017. Mr. Sergei Krikalev was the Roscosmos representative at that videoconference.

I appreciate your commitment to reviewing the USCV data and your commitment to ensure the safety of the crew and ISS. NASA remains dedicated to providing your team the USCV data as soon as it is available. Mr. Gerstenmaier and Mr. Shireman are attending the Soyuz 52 launch and will provide you with a status of the data and plans for U.S. commercial crew.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Lightfoot, Jr.
Administrator (Acting)

Enclosure



National
Aeronautics and
Space
Administration

Action Document Summary

1. CONCURRENCES							
DIRECTORATE/OFFICE	SIGNATURE	DATE		DIRECTORATE/OFFICE	SIGNATURE	DATE	
		IN	OUT			IN	OUT
Office of International and Interagency Relations	<i>Attached.</i>		8/4				
Executive Secretariat	<i>J. H. H. H.</i>		8/4				
Leslie Roe	<i>LBR</i>		8/4				
Robert Lightfoot	<i>RL</i>		8/4				

2. ACTION OFFICER	2a. DIRECTORATE/OFFICE	2b. PHONE	2c. DATE
Kimberly Hurst	OIR	202.358.7224	08/04/2017
3. TYPIST	TYPIST'S PHONE	4. QUALITY CONTROL LIAISON	4a. PHONE
Glenae White-Jones	202.358.1280	Bridgette Spencer	202.358.0882
5. ADMINISTRATOR'S HATS CONTROL NO.	6. DUE DATE	7. SUBJECT	4b. DATE
16017-00390		Thank-You Letter to Komarov Re. Russian ISS Launch	08/04/2017
8. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY		10. QUALITY REVIEW	
ENCLOSED		INITIALS	DATE
9. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS (Use this section to provide information or special guidelines that are not indicative for processing routine "A" packages.)		<i>J. H. H. H.</i>	8/4

OIR Concurrence

Hall, Gina S. (HQ-AH000)

From: White-jones, Glenae C. (HQ-TA000)[VALADOR INC]
Sent: Friday, August 04, 2017 10:29 AM
To: Hall, Gina S. (HQ-AH000)
Subject: FW: Lightfoot to Komarov thank you note - 4Aug2017 0847 (002)

From: Feldstein, Karen C. (HQ-TA000)
Sent: Friday, August 04, 2017 10:28 AM
To: White-jones, Glenae C. (HQ-TA000)[VALADOR INC] <glenae.c.white-jones-1@nasa.gov>
Subject: Re: Lightfoot to Komarov thank you note - 4Aug2017 0847 (002)

Good!

On Aug 4, 2017, at 10:22 AM, White-jones, Glenae C. (HQ-TA000)[VALADOR INC] <glenae.c.white-jones-1@nasa.gov> wrote:

Karen-

Please review the attached letter

Thanks,

Glenae

<Lightfoot to Komarov thank you note - 4Aug2017 0847 (002).docx>



National
Aeronautics and
Space
Administration

Executive Summary

HATS CONTROL NO.

DUE DATE

SUBJECT TITLE: Thank-You Letter to Komarov Re. Russian ISS Launch

The enclosed letter is a note of appreciation to the Director General of Roscosmos, Mr. Komarov, for hosting Mr. Lightfoot for the Soyuz launch activities associated with the recent crew launch to the International Space Station.

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



August 4, 2017

Mr. Igor Komarov
General Director
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

Dear Mr. Komarov: *Igor*

Thank you for the great hospitality last week at the launch of Sergey, Randy, and Paolo to the ISS. What a magnificent launch it was! Having spent much of my career supporting NASA's human spaceflight program, I really enjoyed the Russian launch traditions as well as the tour of the Proton launch pad. I also appreciated the chance to touch base on a few issues of mutual interest and to reaffirm our commitment and shared desire to continue our remarkable partnership in space. Never, it seems, has that commitment taken on greater importance.

I look forward to seeing you again in Adelaide in September and the opportunity to further our discussions. In the meantime, if you have any matters you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. M. Lightfoot, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert M. Lightfoot, Jr.
Administrator (Acting)

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



April 20, 2018

Mr. Igor Komarov
General Director
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
42 Schepkina Street
Moscow 107996
Russia

Dear Mr. Komarov:

Building on the current collaboration through the Venus Exploration Analysis Group (VEXAG) and the Venera-D Joint Science Definition Team (JSDT), I am writing to express NASA's desire to cooperate in exploring our close planetary neighbor, Venus.

Specifically, NASA proposes a Pre-Phase A study agreement with Roscosmos to formalize our intent to develop a concept for a possible joint Venus mission. This agreement would enable detailed discussions of schedules and milestones, exchange of technical data as appropriate, and further definition of science objectives and mission concepts. NASA's points-of-contact for the development of this study agreement will be Dr. Adriana Ocampo of the Planetary Science Division, Science Mission Directorate (adriana.c.ocampo@nasa.gov) and Ms. Shannon Ewan of the Science Division of the Office of International and Interagency Relations (shannon.m.ewan@nasa.gov). I request you provide Roscosmos points-of-contact so that our teams can move forward with these discussions.

NASA also confirms its desire to continue active collaboration through the VEXAG and JSDT. The JSDT, which includes participation from the Russian Academy of Sciences Space Research Institute, is making progress in refining technical elements for a future joint Venus mission concept. Due to the relevance of the JSDT work to the proposed study effort, I request you authorize the appropriate Roscosmos staff and resources to participate fully in the JSDT while the study agreement is being developed.

We have, in Venus exploration, an opportunity to pursue ambitious scientific objectives, which can be achieved by building on our agencies' history of collaboration. I look forward to your response and the designation of Roscosmos points-of-contact.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R M Lightfoot, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert M. Lightfoot, Jr.
Administrator (Acting)

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



November 8, 2018

IAC Multilateral Meeting Invitees

Australian Space Agency
CSIRO
Canadian Space Agency
China National Space Administration
Czech Space Office
European Space Agency
French Space Agency
German Aerospace Center
Hellenic Space Agency
India Space Research Organisation
Israel Space Agency
Italian Space Agency
Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
Korea Aerospace Research Institute

Luxembourg Space Agency
Mexican Space Agency
Netherlands Space Office
Norwegian Space Centre
Polish Space Agency
Romanian Space Agency
State Space Corporation Roscosmos
State Space Agency of Ukraine
Swiss Space Office
UK Space Agency
UAE Space Agency
Vietnam National Space Center

Last month I was very pleased to chair a meeting of senior leaders from space agencies around the world in conjunction with the International Astronautical Congress in Bremen, Germany. This productive meeting afforded the participants an opportunity to share their views on preparations to advance human and robotic exploration on and around the Moon. As an outcome of this exchange of ideas, in order to facilitate future high-level discussions, NASA committed to solicit, compile and share Agency responses to the following questions:

1. Is your Agency interested in participating in human and robotic exploration activities on and around the moon with the goal of gaining insights into the science of and from the moon, and building systems that would allow human presence to extend beyond the Earth-Moon system? If so, what areas or parts of the architecture would be of specific interest?
2. What is your current level of commitment and goals for these areas and timeframe for solidifying any additional or planned commitments?
3. Are there additional questions that should be considered?

It was further proposed during this meeting that a multilateral working group be established to advance the coordination of lunar exploration and science activities among the international community, which could include the development of unifying principles for such

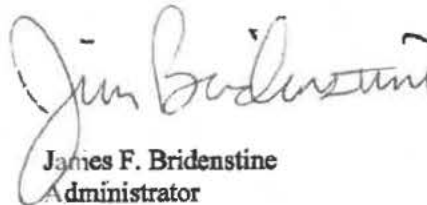
future exploration. Given that a significant number of space agencies already participate in the International Space Exploration Coordination Group (ISECG), established in 2007 to promote multilateral development of a Global Exploration Strategy, NASA recommends that this existing forum be a venue for these new discussions with some modifications (for more information on ISECG see: <https://www.globalspaceexploration.org/wordpress/>).

The ISECG has proven to be a valuable forum for coordination among space agencies. It needs to be broadened to accommodate the participation of additional member space agencies interested in space exploration. It also needs to better incorporate broader scientific and technological member interests, including cross-disciplinary science investigations and innovative technology advancements for human and robotic science exploration systems. The ISECG format also allows for senior agency manager engagement to review progress of the working group and to provide strategic direction. Accordingly, I have asked Mr. Thomas Cremins, Acting Chief of Staff and NASA Associate Administrator for Strategy and Plans, to serve as NASA's senior representative to the ISECG, to work with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, current ISECG Chair, to convene a meeting early next year to continue these important discussions on our respective exploration plans on and around the Moon.

I would greatly appreciate your responses to the questions posed above by December 14, 2018. It is my intention to share the results as soon as possible thereafter and to convene a follow-on high-level discussion at the Space Symposium in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in April 2019.

I look forward to working with you to continue to advance human and robotic space exploration and the scientific knowledge that will accrue from those endeavors, for the benefit of humankind.

Sincerely,



James F. Bridenstine
Administrator