



September 22, 2021

Mr. Jonathan Corso
Economic Development Representative Economic Development Administration
401 W. Peachtree Street, NW
Suite 1820
Atlanta, GA 30308-3510

Dear Mr. Corso:

The 200 Mile Gateway is a not for profit organization promoting the investments and infrastructure of the aerospace and defense industries in the 200 Mile Gateway region that stretches from Jacksonville, Florida to Charleston, South Carolina.

The 200 Mile Gateway strongly supports the application by the Coastal Regional Commission of Georgia (CRC) for a Build Back Better Grant with the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and specifically for the Spaceport Camden project.

Spaceport Camden is vital to the future economic growth and development of coastal Georgia. The Spaceport at Camden and coastal Georgia are uniquely positioned to become a major hub for the commercial aerospace industry. The commercial space economy, by even the most conservative forecasts, will grow significantly over the next decade and beyond. Spaceport Camden and coastal Georgia can and should be a part of that growth.

As the original site for the start-up of the U.S. space program, the Spaceport at Camden has all the natural advantages for a thriving commercial space launch platform and would serve as a major factor in allowing the U.S. commercial space industry to grow to its fullest potential.

Assistance from the EDA, at this early stage in the Spaceport's development, would be crucial to its long term success and to the positive impact it would have on the region.

Just like an airport, it's the commercial ecosystem around the spaceport that drives most of the economic and technological engine – the supporting vendors and services, the operators and

their suppliers and customers. History has shown that the jobs in this industry are well paid and oftentimes do not require a college education.

For example, in a similar type project, Space Florida pointed to an extensive study they did in 2013 that projected a \$350 million investment and the creation of 2500 jobs. More recently, a Blue Origin bid projected a \$2.5 billion investment and the creation of 600 new jobs – high paying new jobs!

Spaceport Camden has gone through one of the lengthiest and most extensive Environmental Impact Statements and has passed all the tests and is ready to operate within the highest safety requirements.

So, we respectfully encourage any assistance possible to Spaceport Camden. It is the gateway to the future!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicole Rodgers', written over a horizontal line.

Nicole Rodgers
Executive Director
200 Mile Gateway
(202)415-6726