

ORRIN G. HATCH
UTAH

ROBERT PORTER
CHIEF OF STAFF

104 Hart Senate Office Building

TELEPHONE: (202) 224-5251
TDD (202) 224-2849
FAX: (202) 224-6331

Website: hatch.senate.gov

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4402

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June 7, 2016

The Honorable Michael P. Huerta
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Huerta:

I am writing to commend you for your past collaboration with industry and academia as the FAA develops a regulatory framework for unmanned aerial systems (UAS) and to recommend that you continue to include strong industry, government, research, and academia participation in the newly-established Drone Advisory Council (DAC).

As you well know, the safe and efficient integration of drones into the National Airspace System (NAS) will provide tremendous growth for many sectors of our economy and create many public health and safety opportunities. While this technology has roots in military applications, the largest potential growth area lies in commercial UAS operations. One recent report estimated that the commercial UAS market could be a \$21 billion industry within five years.

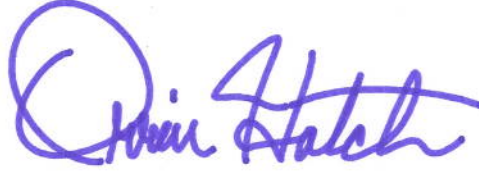
Accordingly, it is essential that the DAC is comprised of relevant industry, government, research, and academia stakeholders. I am pleased with the FAA's efforts thus far to involve relevant UAS industry stakeholders in its studies and decisionmaking through membership in the UAS Registration Task Force and the MicroUAS Aviation Rulemaking Committee. Continuing this effort by including industry stakeholders like the Small UAV Coalition in the DAC would provide unparalleled experience and expertise to the Council and support the FAA's work to integrate UAS safely into our skies.

As a leading UAS industry group, the Small UAV Coalition could inform the DAC in critical issues such as unmanned traffic management, beyond visual line of sight operations, operations over people, carriage of property, and spectrum. Likewise, the involvement of research and academia stakeholders would provide additional value to the DAC's NAS integration efforts through research-related flight testing data and insight into innovation and future technologies.

I strongly urge you to include the Small UAV Coalition, other relevant industry UAS stakeholders, and research and academia professionals in the Drone Advisory Council so that it may benefit from the wealth of experience, expertise, and research available from capable and

willing stakeholders. Thank you for your active efforts to safely and efficiently integrate drones into NAS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Orrin Hatch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "O" and "H".

Orrin Hatch
United States Senator