NATIONAL
INSTITUTE OF
AEROSPACE

Dr. Douglas O. Stanley
President & Executive Director

Gary A. Norek
Manager, Airspace Policy and Regulations Group
U.S. Department of Transportation
Docket Operations, M–30
West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Re: FAA Docket No. FAA–2015–2776 and Airspace Docket No. 15–AEA–5

Dear Mr. Norek:

Regarding FAA Docket No. FAA–2015–2776 and Airspace Docket No. 15–AEA–5, the National Institute of Aerospace wholeheartedly supports the Federal Aviation Administration's proposed rule for expanding NASA Wallops Flight Facility's restricted airspace in support of ongoing and future operations.

In addition to need for this additional airspace for NASA Wallops' important core missions, it would have great benefit to the emerging Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) industry as well as important university research. Facilities to perform UAS research are very limited and this additional airspace would be used to develop important UAS-related technologies by NASA, the Mid-Atlantic Aviation Partnership, NIA and our member universities (e.g., Virginia Tech).

We feel that the benefits of this airspace very much justify the additional restrictions, particularly since the restrictions would only be temporary, as required.

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Douglas O. Stanley
President & Executive Director

100 Exploration Way, Hampton, VA 23666 (757) 325-6751 www.nianet.org