

California State Senate

SENATOR
JEFF DENHAM
TWELFTH SENATE DISTRICT



June 9, 2009

The Honorable Andrea Seastrand
Executive Director
California Space Authority
3201 Airpark Drive, 204
Santa Maria, CA 93455

Dear Andrea:

I am delighted to express my support for the California Space Authority (CSA) and its efforts to develop a California Space Center in Northern Santa Barbara County.

California does not yet have a single facility available to the public that tells the story about the state's space assets and their significant contributions to national security, homeland security, and observation of the Earth's resources. The California Space Center will provide the public with a world-class space education facility including a launch viewing site, an amphitheatre, visitor center, educational complex, conference support facility for Vandenberg Air Force Base.

The Center will highlight the past, present and future of California's key space contributions, including the launch of the nation's early remote sensing satellites, support for national security missions and the launch of nearly all of NASA/NOAA earth observation and environmental missions. Further, the project will celebrate the role of the Chumash Indians, the first inhabitants of the area, whose mythology includes rich references to the sky and the stars. This project will provide a significant tourism benefit to the Central Coast, as well as inspire children from throughout the entire state to study math, science, technology, and engineering.

I encourage you continued work in trying to make California a center of space enterprise activist, and I look forward to our continued working relationship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Denham".

JEFF DENHAM

REPRESENTING MADERA, MERCED, MONTEREY, SAN BENITO AND STANISLAUS COUNTIES

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