

NASA AEROSPACE SAFETY ADVISORY PANEL
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Washington, DC 20546
VADM Joseph W. Dyer USN, (Ret.), Chair

November 16, 2010

The Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Washington, DC 20546

Dear Mr. Bolden:

The Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel (ASAP) reviewed NASA's responses dated June 21, 2010; July 8, 2010; and September 13, 2010 addressing ASAP's recommendations and has statused seven recommendations as closed, but with updates requested for three.

The NASA response to four of the recommendations was very positive allowing the ASAP to close these recommendations without reservation. These four are:

1. 2009-02-04, Exercise Appropriate Diligence With Respect to Insuring the Acceptable Safety for Aircraft Employed in All Host Countries
2. 2009-04-01, Formal Governance Process for KSC S&MA and Shuttle Workforce Management
3. 2008-02-07, Follow-up to Accident Review Timeline, Part II
4. 2010-01-02, Safety and Mission Assurance (S&MA) Technical Excellence Program

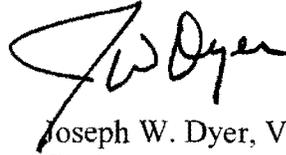
The three recommendations that have been closed but for which updates are requested include:

1. 2009-03-05, Human Rating Requirements for Technical Standards – The ASAP would like to continue receiving quarterly reviews of commercial space activities. Good progress is being made and the ASAP wants to remain current on the various efforts underway. We were briefed at the JSC meeting on October 21, 2010 on the Integrated Design and Safety Analysis process and concur in the direction being taken there. Also, we were pleased to learn about the KSC and JSC initiatives to inform the potential commercial providers about the facilities, resources and capabilities that can be made available to them at these two centers.
2. 2008-02-07, Accident Review Timeline Part I – The ASAP requests an update be provided at the ASAP's 1st quarterly meeting at Headquarters on February 3, 2011 to include an executive summary of the end-to-end timeline, i.e., starting with the date of the accident occurrence through to the date of completion of the endorsements, for Type

A mishaps over the past 5 years. Also the update should include a report on the status of verification and closeout documentation on corrective actions for which NASA has acknowledged that there is still room for improvement. In addition, NASA is showing that one action remains open for completion this year relating to an analysis of "Causes of Mishaps."

3. 2009-03-03, Metrics on Mishap Investigation Board Report Authorization and Release from NASA Headquarters – The ASAP requests that the statistics and trend data be reported at our 1st quarterly meeting at Headquarters on February 3, 2011 and continue quarterly thereafter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. W. Dyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "W".

Joseph W. Dyer, VADM, USN (Ret.)
Chair
Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel