DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
30TH SPACE WING (AFSPC)

28 JAN 2010

Colonel David Buck
Commander, 30th Space Wing
747 Nebraska Ave Suite A200
Vandenberg AFB CA 93437-6261

Joni Gray
Supervisor, 4th District
County of Santa Barbara, California
401 East Cypress Ave
Lompoc CA 93436

Dear Ms. Gray

Thank you for your inquires regarding the role US Highway 101 (Hwy 101) has on the many missions on Vandenberg Air Force Base. As you know, we are the nation's premier polar orbit launch site, supporting Department of Defense, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and commercial programs. Beyond our launch mission, Vandenberg has many other critical national defense missions, including on-alert missile defense interceptors and the Joint Space Operations Center. Of course, we could not accomplish any of our missions if we did not also provide a safe, secure, and healthy base community for all our Airmen, their families, contractors, and the local military retiree population. In response to your request, the information below highlights of our primary uses for the highway:

In support of our launch mission, over 250 deliveries of launch vehicle components, satellites, or propellants, arrive here each year via Hwy 101. This year, we anticipate delivery of six satellites, over 100 tanker deliveries of propellant, and numerous deliveries of booster components. Additionally, Hwy 101 is frequented by our base workforce of over 10,000 and our nation-wide partners, including our space acquisition program offices at Los Angeles Air Force Base, for mission-related travel to and from Vandenberg.

To support nearly 3,500 military members, over 4,000 military dependents and over 10,000 local military retirees, Vandenberg maintains a well-stocked commissary, Base Exchange, and full-service gas station. These facilities receive roughly five delivery trucks per day (~1,500/year), most via Hwy 101.

Timely access between Vandenberg and Southern California via Hwy 101 is also vital for mutual aid support during emergencies. Our fire department joins forces with other Federal, State, County and local fire agencies to battle 10-15 fires every year. Last September, the support of over 350 firefighters from throughout the state was essential in the successful battle against our Pine Canyon Fire.

We estimate our general day-to-day operations result in several thousand deliveries a year that involve use of Hwy 101. These deliveries range from normal office supplies, to equipment such as computers, furniture and copiers, to bulkier items such as high-voltage transformers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any additional questions related to our usage of Hwy 101.

Sincerely

DAVID J. BUCK
Colonel, USAF
Commander