National Aeronautics and Space Administration

**Headquarters**
Washington, DC 20546-0001

May 15, 2008

Reply to Attn of: Office of the General Counsel

TO: Distribution

FROM: Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance at the Space Weather Enterprise Forum Reception on May 20, 2008

On the evening of May 20, 2008, Ball Aerospace and Technologies Corp. will hold a reception in the United States House of Representative' Rayburn Office Building. This reception is the opening event before a day-long seminar called Space Weather Enterprise Forum (SWEF) on Wednesday, May 21, 2008, at the National Press Building. The SWEF is an annual event organized by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in conjunction with NASA. The opening reception is being sponsored by Ball Aerospace. The reception is open to all invited guests of the SWEF. At the reception, speakers including Representative Mark Udall and Mary Glackin, the Deputy Undersecretary of NOAA will speak on the topic "Highlighting the Economic, Societal and National Security Impacts of Space Weather." Invited participants will include officials from other Federal agencies, Congressional staff, and representatives from aerospace associations, educational institutions, as well as employees and management from other industries interested in space weather. The estimated per-person cost of the reception is $35.00 and is free to all attendees.

I find that the SWEF reception meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R.§2635.204(g). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. The SWEF is an educational opportunity for members of the space weather community to exchange ideas and information.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect Ball Aerospace and Technologies Corporation by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R.§2635.205(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

Adam F. Greenstone