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**Congress of the United States**  
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CHAIRMAN,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC POLICY  
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND  
GOVERNMENT REFORM  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

August 4, 2009

The Honorable Norman Augustine  
Chairman of Review of Human Space Flight Plans Committee  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
300 E Street Southwest  
Washington, D.C. 20024-3210

Dear Chairman Augustine:

Congratulations on your appointment as Chair of the Review of Human Space Flight Plans Committee. As your Committee continues its review of the future of NASA's human space flight program work, I ask that you and the Commission consider the value of the NASA Glenn Research Center to NASA, Ohio and to the nation.

NASA Glenn plays a fundamental role in developing NASA's future generation of space flight vehicles, including the Ares I & V rockets, and the Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle. In addition, it is the lead NASA Center for the Orion service module and spacecraft adapter integration and has been a consistent field leader in aviation propulsion research. NASA Glenn also provides expert engineers who support the Space Shuttle Program. Its satellite Plum Brook Station in Sandusky, Ohio is a world-class testing facility where the Orion spacecraft was recently tested.

The employees at NASA Glenn have been leaders in developing cleaner chemicals for space propulsion that is safer, more reliable and more affordable. NASA Glenn is also vital in training and recruiting the next generation of employees that will work on future space flight missions to the Moon and Mars through its educational partnership programs with local universities.

In addition to providing critical space flight technologies, NASA Glenn is an economic engine for the greater Cleveland community and the State of Ohio. In FY07, the year for which we have the most recent data, the economic output of NASA Glenn in Ohio was \$1.2 billion per year. It was responsible for over 8,000 jobs and household earnings amounted to \$402 million. NASA Glenn's expertise in renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies will be critical to Ohio's burgeoning green economy.

Please feel free to call on me or my staff if we can be of assistance to you through the review of NASA's human space flight program. I am confident you will find the program and NASA Glenn's contribution to the program to be essential.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Kucinich  
Member of Congress