



**Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U.S. House of Representatives**

June 16, 2021

The Honorable Lloyd Austin  
Secretary of Defense  
U.S. Department of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

The Honorable Avril Haines  
Director of National Intelligence  
Office of the Director of National Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20511

Dear Secretary Austin and Director Haines:

We write regarding the decision to move the U.S. Space Command (USSPACECOM) from its provisional headquarters at Peterson Air Force Base, in Colorado Springs, Colorado, to Huntsville, Alabama. We are concerned that the process did not fully consider Intelligence Community (IC) equities including dependencies and synergies that would be disrupted by the decision to move USSPACECOM headquarters. The ability of DoD and the IC to synchronize space operations is critical to space superiority. It is critical that IC equities are fully considered, and we request a thorough review of the siting decision.

The National Space Defense Center (NSDC) at Schriever Air Force Base is critical for ensuring interoperability between DoD and IC agencies with space-based missions. Since its creation in 2015, the IC and DoD have invested hundreds of millions of dollars, focused on space control and domain awareness infrastructure, in the NSDC.

Further, Colorado is the nation's premier space activity hub. It is home to eight of the Space Force's nine space deltas, the only reserve component space wing, and the sole Army space brigade. Colorado's premier space facilities have also attracted a workforce able to support both IC and DoD space missions. Colorado is home to nearly 1,000 aerospace companies and suppliers, and the state is home to the nation's largest concentration of aerospace employees. We believe that the operational integration between IC and DoD space communities and other joint sites in Colorado as well as the total cost to the government must be considered when making the final basing decision.

To this end we request you review the parameters and method by which this decision was evaluated, to ensure that existing collaboration and interdependencies between the IC and DoD were appropriately considered. With the accelerating threats to our overhead space capabilities, this is a critical decision that will have long-term implications for our national security.

Thank you for your commitment to our nation's space superiority, and we look forward to discussing these issues with you further.

Sincerely,



Adam B. Schiff  
Chairman



Jason Crow  
Member of Congress