

October 26, 2010

Co-Director  
Montana-Mississippi UAS CoE Program  
MSU-Northern  
P.O. Box 7751  
Harve MT 59501

**SUBJ: SUPPORT FOR UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS (UAS) OPERATIONS  
IN THE VICINITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA**

Dear Sir,

The board members of the Central Montana Defense Alliance (CMDA) wish to express our deep appreciation for your informative presentation on the current capabilities of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and the potential growth opportunities that the emerging technology may have for Montana. As a community with a rich heritage of supporting military aviation and its unique training requirements, the Central Montana Defense Alliance understands the importance and the potential of the Hays Military Operations Area (MOA) to support a variety of missions to include the integration of UAS into the national Airspace System. As such, the UAS Center of Excellence collaboration effort between Montana and Mississippi State University holds extraordinary promise to be a leader in UAS policy recommendations, education, and in the conduct of UAS testing, research, and training. Great Falls and the surrounding areas has the required infrastructure and a skilled labor force trained in aircraft maintenance and operations that would be a valued asset in supporting future UAS operations. The Central Montana Defense Alliance proudly supports your efforts and looks forward to working with you to indentify specific areas where we can be of further assistance.

Respectfully,

David Weissman  
Chair, CMDA