



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Office of the Administrator

[REDACTED]

February 5, 2015

Dr. R. John Hansman, Ph.D.
Chair, Research, Engineering and
Development Advisory Committee

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Dr. ^{John}Hansman:

Thank you and the Federal Aviation Administration's Research, Engineering and Development Advisory Committee (REDAC) for your November 10, 2014, letter providing guidance on Emerging Issues and Future Opportunities. This information will help us develop a Research and Development (R&D) portfolio that is strategic and responsive.

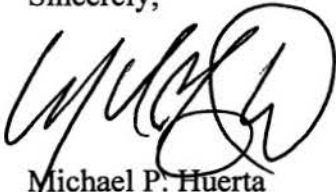
I have reviewed your informal report. The input is well reasoned and exemplifies individual subject matter expertise, as well as the collective corporate wisdom from the respective organizations and industries represented by the current membership. We will continue to maintain our focus on priority areas deemed critical to the mission of the Agency. Surveying the emerging issues and opportunities ensures the Agency maintains a holistic and strategic R&D portfolio.

Effective future efforts resulting from this input will include the continued identification of additional key focus areas and the review of converging, cross-cutting topics. These efforts will maximize output that yields enhanced critical development of an invaluable Agency research portfolio. I look forward to continuing the dialog on potential emerging issues developed during the brainstorming process used in the fall meetings.

Furthermore, I appreciate the past and future work of the REDAC to evaluate and advise us on our ongoing applied research portfolio. We will continue to evaluate existing research priorities and leverage ongoing initiatives considering specific REDAC recommendations, while pursuing potential future opportunities identified by the Committee as we build an R&D portfolio that

addresses safety, efficiency, and capacity of the air transportation system in an environmentally sound manner.

Sincerely,



Michael P. Huerta
Administrator