## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

September 19, 2016

Vice Admiral James D. Syring Director, Missile Defense Agency 5700 18th Street, Bldg 245 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

Dear Vice Admiral Syring,

It's our understanding that you have completed your assessment of the environmental impacts for a missile defense Interceptor Site at Fort Custer Training Center, one of three remaining locations under consideration. The assessment showed that the environmental impacts for placing an interceptor at Fort Custer would be minimal and that unlike the other sites, Fort Custer would not require additional surveys or cause significant harm to protected species or habitats.

As you know, the community had the opportunity to meet with the Missile Defense Agency, ask questions about the draft assessment, and submit remarks before the public comment period closed on August 17. We have heard from numerous organizations and leaders in the community, and want to emphasize the strong local support for Fort Custer as the host location.

Since 1917, Fort Custer has played an integral part in training our Armed Forces for vital national security missions. It supports over 190,000 training mandays annually, hosts nine tenants, including the Army, Marine, and Naval reserves, and stands ready to take on this new mission.

Fort Custer has taken tremendous strides to increase its energy efficiency by installing solar fields and a wind funnel to generate electrical power. These innovative developments help make Fort Custer a cost-effective option for the interceptor site.

Locating the interceptor at Fort Custer would bring a welcomed \$3.2 billion in economic impact, including \$700 million in new construction. It would also employ 300 jobs directly and up to 1,800 support jobs.

Given all of these considerations, we strongly support Fort Custer Training Center as the preferred Continental United States Interceptor Site and look forward to staying engaged as the selection process continues.

Sincerely,

U.S. Senator

U.S. Representative

Gary C. Peters Brenda L. Lawrence U.S. Senator U.S. Representative Mike Bishop Candice S. Miller U.S. Representative U.S. Representative Bill Huizenga Dan Benishek U.S. Representative U.S. Representative Tim Walberg John Moolenaar U.S. Representative U.S. Representative Dan Kildee Dave Trott U.S. Representative U.S. Representative

Debbie Dingel

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John Conyers, Jr. U.S. Representative

Sander Levin

U.S. Representative