



December 6, 2017

National Science Foundation (NSF)
2415 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22314

RE: Texas Tech University
Institute for Materials, Manufacturing, and Sustainment's
Exploratory of Autonomous Sustainment Capability and
Methodologies for the Achievement of "Zero Maintenance" or
"Fatigue Free" Aviation Platform

To Whom It May Concern:

The Lubbock Economic Development Alliance (LEDA) works closely with Texas Tech University (TTU) and supports their pursuits of new and existing research in their university systems.

Under the direction of Dr. Joe Heppert, Vice President of Research for TTU, research is being conducted in the Institute for Materials, Manufacturing and Sustainment (IMMS) department. The IMMS department is currently exploring innovative concepts and "big ideas" for self-healing materials and methodologies, bio-inspired capabilities to achieve "zero maintenance" and "fatigue-free" aviation platforms.

LEDA supports the IMMS aviation platform vision and would work with TTU to secure the needed facilities or land to build a structure to house this exploratory research effort and demonstration of new concepts for bio-inspired aviation platforms.

The TTU System continues to bring key research efforts to their campus in Lubbock, Texas. Their higher education and research efforts positively and significantly impacts Lubbock. LEDA commends TTU's educational and research efforts and pledge our continued community support.

Please let us know if we can provide any additional information regarding our support for the IMMS research being conducted at TTU.



Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Osborne', with a fluid, cursive style.

John Osborne
President & CEO