## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**



MEADE COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA 1300 Sherman Street STE 212 Sturgis, South Dakota 57785 Tel 605.720.1625 Fax 605.720.1633 www.MeadeCounty.org Alan Aker Chairman Bob Bertolotto Commissioner Robert Heidgerken Vice Chairman Galen Niederwerder Commissioner Linda Rausch Commissioner Jerry Derr Commission Assistant

March 27, 2014

Manager, Operations Support Group, ATO Central Service Center, AJV-C2 Airspace Study 14-AGL-06NR
Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration
2601 Meacham Blvd
Fort Worth, TX 76137

RE: Air Space Study 14-AGL-06NR

To Who It May Concern::

We are writing to express the following concerns regarding the PRTC:

We oppose flight restrictions which would negatively affect the operations of local airports and individual farmers and ranchers who fly to check cattle and crops, and other commercial, emergency, and recreational fliers.

The USAF has failed in the past to timely indemnify farmers and ranchers for damages they caused. We feel the risk of fires from flares and chaff may be significant and it's a matter of when, not if, an accident will occur. The area in question contains productive farm and ranch land, but is sparsely populated, which means the volunteer firefighters have limited resources.

We are concerned about low-level flights under 500 feet, which may or may not be supersonic. If the USAF would create a means in which damages would be mitigated immediately, it would ease our concerns.

We thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Best regards

Alan Aker, Chairman

Meade County Board of Commissioners