

**BORON**

**CALIFORNIA CITY**

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

**LANCASTER**

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**TO ESTABLISH THE**  
**EDWARDS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE**

**KERN COUNTY**

**MOJAVE**

**ROSAMOND**

**TEHACHAPI**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The East Kern County and Antelope Valley region, as a community, has a large investment in the aviation and space industry. Military, public, and private industry have enormous capabilities and capacity to continue to be one of the largest contributing communities to the aviation and space industry, and military research and development of future systems.

The Air Force Flight Test Center (AFFTC) and its major tenants, Air Force Propulsion Division, and NASA Dryden Flight Research Center have a proven record of contribution to the advancement of aerospace science including the development of many of the nation's most well known fighter, bomber, transport, and air-breathing and rocket powered research aircraft; rocket propulsion for ballistic missiles, launch vehicles, satellites and the space shuttle, and a new family of space vehicles including the Reusable Launch Vehicle and the Department of Defense(DoD) Space Plane.

Edwards Air Force Base represents a substantial investment by the DoD in facilities and equipment and has a major role in the development and testing of the nation's military aircraft and space systems for the foreseeable future. The base is a major job generator, providing employment for approximately 14, 000 military and civilian personnel resulting in the infusion of \$2.1 billion annually into the local area. The loss of this asset would be a long-term economic disaster for local residents and businesses.

DoD and the Congress have approved another round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) activity for 2005. Previous BRAC studies have indicated that the test and evaluation installations have not taken their fair share of BRAC cuts. Edwards is one of 19 Major Range and Test Facility Bases (MRTFB) in the DoD.

## **2. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to formalize a Community Alliance to support the future viability of Edwards Air Force Base, the Air Force Flight Test Center, and its tenants. A variety of means will be employed which will include, but not be limited to, political support/lobbying, financial support, and promotion of Edwards Air Force Base and the East Kern/Antelope Valley region as a premier location for continued pursuit of military, other defense, and commercial aerospace enterprise.

### **3. SCOPE**

The scope of this MOU includes all activities and functions in which the Alliance can support and advocate Edwards Air Force Base and its tenants. Such activities may include, but not be limited to, identifying educational/training programs to reduce the scientific and engineering personnel shortfall in the area; research the capabilities of Edwards, the AFFTC, its capacity, mission readiness, and current and potential contributions to national defense and aerospace goals; prepare a report on research findings for use by the Alliance and others; prepare documentation and correspondence required to protect Edwards and the AFFTC from plans to reduce their military and/or aerospace mission; and prepare a plan to protect, preserve, and enhance the missions of the Air Force Flight Test Center and Edwards Air Force Base.

### **4. AGREEMENT**

Members of the Edwards Community Alliance agree to support the future viability of Edwards Air Force Base and the Air Force Flight Test Center by:

- supporting programs and projects that capitalize on the research, technology and training capabilities inherent in the East Kern/Antelope Valley region, and
- assisting in maintaining the highest levels of capability consistent with the Department of Defense and private sector research, development, test and evaluation, and training needs, and
- promoting maximum “jointness” in the region utilizing shared facilities and resources
- recognizing the importance of Research, Development, Test and Evaluation and Training, and
- promoting commonality and interoperability of Development, Test and Evaluation and Training resources in the region, and
- advocating the East Kern/Antelope Valley region as the region that can best meet the nation’s future needs of DoD, and private sector Joint Research, Test and Evaluation and Training and do it most efficiently.

### **5. ORGANIZATION**

The Edwards Community Alliance will function under the oversight control of the County of Kern, as the single local base retention entity for Edwards Air Force Base. The County Community Development Program Department will be responsible for providing this oversight. The Aerospace Office, under contract to the County, will facilitate the operation of the Alliance in accordance with the approved by-laws. The Alliance will have two voting representatives from each of the communities shown below. Each county will have a minimum of one representative. A member of the Kern County Board of Supervisors, at the County’s discretion, will serve as co-chair of Alliance meetings along with an elected community representative.

BORON  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
ROSAMOND

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**6. TERM OF AGEEMENT AND RIGHT TO TERMINATE**

This agreement becomes effective on the date of the last signature of the participating parties. This agreement may be terminated by any party upon a 90-day written notice to the other parties. Unless earlier terminated, this agreement shall remain in effect through the 2005 BRAC process.

**7. SIGNATORY AUTHORITY FOR MODIFICATIONS**

Any modifications to this agreement shall be executed in writing and signed by an authorized representative of each organization.

**8. EXECUTION**

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