

D. LYNN SPRUILL Mayor THE CITY OF STARKVILLE Mayor's Office CITY HALL, 110 W. MAIN STREET STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI 39759

Phone: 662-323-2525 Ext.3100 Fax: 662-323-4143

March 15, 2023

Mr. Buck Sarrette, Deputy Director Raspet Flight Laboratory Mississippi State University 114 Airport Road Starkville, MS 39759

## **RE: Raspet Flight Laboratory Expansion**

Dear Mr. Sarrette:

As the Mayor of the City of Starkville, I am happy to submit this letter of support for the proposed expansion of the Mississippi State University Raspet Flight Laboratory.

The City of Starkville through its Board of Aldermen are very proud of the work that has gone on at the municipal George M. Bryan Field in the area of research and to have that continue and expanded is no doubt in Starkville's best interest. Aviation is a large part of our history having this project as part of the complement of activities at our airport is of great benefit to our community reaching beyond today and well into our future.

The City continues to strongly support local and regional aviation through the expansion of our airport's capabilities with the purchase of land and extension of the runway and taxiway. A recent grant for constructing a new terminal building will allow for the advancement of our position and will further support the needs from this expansion of the Raspet Flight Laboratory.

It is our great desire to assist in the efforts for your success in continued growth by increasing the research capabilities for Mississippi State University.

Sincerely,

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D. Lynn Spruill, Mayor City of Starkville, MS

www.cityofstarkville.org



March 15, 2023

Mr. Buck Sarrette, Deputy Director Raspet Flight Laboratory Mississippi State University 114 Airport Road Starkville, MS 39759

Dear Mr. Sarrette:

On behalf of the Oktibbeha County Economic Development Authority (OCEDA) Board, I'm pleased to submit this letter of support for the planned physical expansion of Mississippi State University's Raspet Flight Laboratory.

Raspet's origin dates back more than 70 years, and MSU and Raspet have proven themselves as vital community partners who drive innovation and create new opportunities. A frequent stop for national and state entities – both public and private – seeking business development opportunities, Raspet is one of our community's research gems. Expanding and upgrading its physical space will enhance the ability to continue growing its research staff and allow its physical presence to better match its research prowess.

Its location on George M. Bryan Field adds to the quality of future opportunities to enhance this local airport acting as a strong aviation partner for our city and county as well as the university. This municipal field has seen

much growth over the past years and that development will only be enhanced by the expansion and increased profile of the Raspet Lab.

It is my great pleasure to support this project on behalf of the OCEDA board and we look forward to your continued success and growth.

Sincerely,

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D. Lynn Spruill President, Oktibbeha County Economic Development Authority Mayor, City of Starkville



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Commissioners: Bobby L. Harper, Robin Y. McCormick, Trey Breckenridge, Frank Chiles, R. Gawyn Mitchell Executive Director: Matthew D. Dowell, A.A.E

March 14, 2023

Mr. Buck Sarrette, Deputy Director Raspet Flight Research Laboratory Mississippi State University 114 Airport Road Starkville, MS 39759

Dear Mr. Sarrette:

As an aviation partner within our Golden Triangle tri-city area, I'm pleased to write this letter of support for the Mississippi State University Raspet Flight Research Laboratory expansion.

I've watched first-hand as Raspet's longstanding impact on the community has accelerated to new heights in recent years. As your research profile has risen, it's encouraging to see the momentum its generated for your job-creation efforts.

Good luck on the expansion and we look forward to our continued collaborations.

Sincerely,

Matthew Dowell

Matt Dowell, A.A.E. Executive Director Golden Triangle Regional Airport Columbus/Starkville/West Point, MS

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