



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY,
AND LOGISTICS

OCT 18 2013

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Heinrich:

Thank you for your September 19, 2013, letter regarding the SunZia transmission line. I understand this matter is important to New Mexico, and I hope we can identify a solution that meets everyone's needs.

Our test profiles need to accurately represent the enemy cruise missile threats so we can demonstrate and certify the operational effectiveness of our Joint Air and Missile Defense Systems.

You requested that I utilize MIT Lincoln Laboratory to look at concerns raised by White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) and examine potential changes to test protocols that would allow the Department of Defense (DoD) to adapt to the presence of a new transmission line. We are assembling a team that will include MIT Lincoln Laboratory to examine the WSMR test profiles and targets flying in a clutter environment, along with the detection altitudes for different radar technologies. The team should complete the updated analysis in early 2014.

I appreciate your interest, and will keep you informed on the progress of our analyses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Kendall", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Frank Kendall

cc:
Principal Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management