



# SUPERIOR WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

LAKE SUPERIOR • LAKE MICHIGAN • LAKE HURON

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December 12, 2020

The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer  
100 N Capitol Avenue  
P.O. Box 30013  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

## CLARIFICATION:

Dear Governor Whitmer,

In 2019 Marquette County requested a support letter from the Superior Watershed Partnership (SWP) for establishing a spaceport at Sawyer International Airport. The SWP provided a letter supporting the re-use of the underutilized former K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base.

Since then the developer, Michigan Aerospace Manufacturer's Association (MAMA), has dramatically shifted direction and is now proposing a launch site on an undeveloped, environmentally sensitive section of Lake Superior coastline.

As more information has slowly been released to the public, numerous environmental and economic concerns have come to light including but not limited to; potential surface water and groundwater contamination, a massive carbon footprint, noise pollution, light pollution, quality of life impacts and more. It's also worth noting that the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) has documented numerous threatened and endangered plant and animal species in close proximity to the proposed launch site.

For these and other reasons the SWP is formally withdrawing support for the proposed project. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information or documentation regarding this decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Lindquist". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carl Lindquist, SWP Executive Director

cc: Rep. Sara Cambensy  
Rep. Gregory Markkanen  
Rep. Beau LaFave  
Rep. Lee Chatfield  
Rep. Jack Bergman  
Sen. Ed McBroom  
Sen. Wayne Schmidt  
Sen. Debbie Stabenow  
Sen. Gary Peters