

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 6, 2026

General Randy George
Chief of Staff of the Army
U.S. Department of Defense
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear General George,

Michigan continues to be the backbone of the Army's industrial base, a leader in defense modernization, and a host for large-scale joint training exercises like NORTHERN STRIKE. We welcomed the opportunity to host Secretary of the Army Driscoll at the Detroit Arsenal, Newlab Detroit, and Camp Grayling last August to meet with military, government, and industry leaders. Thank you for the Army's recent decision to designate Michigan as its national uncrewed aerial systems test site. This year, we seek to expand the Army-Michigan partnership and urge you to conduct Project Convergence Capstone 6 (PCC6) experimentation events this summer at Michigan's National All-Domain Warfighting Center (NADWC).

NADWC is an ideal location to test new technologies at scale and experiment with a wide range of joint training scenarios and capabilities, including contested logistics and Next Generation Command and Control. NADWC's all-domain capability, large size, expansive special use airspace, and all-weather training environment offers warfighters the ability to test military tech under a wide range of battlefield conditions, including for live fire, combined arms, and swarm testing.

- Since 2012, the Michigan National Guard has hosted EXERCISE NORTHERN STRIKE, the largest all-domain reserve forces exercise in the country with over 5,100 participants, at NADWC in northern Michigan. Participating units conduct scenario-based, full-spectrum readiness training.
- NADWC is the largest joint training range in the country east of the Mississippi River. It spans nearly 150,000 acres of training space and 17,000 square miles of contiguous special use military airspace that extends over Lake Huron up to 50,000 mean sea level.
- NADWC offers year-round, all-weather drone training in all five warfighting domains (land, air, maritime, cyber, and space) to pressure test the full range of battlefield scenarios, including air-to-air maneuvers, contested command and control, maritime and littoral combat operations, and long-range precision strikes.

The Army can utilize NADWC in support of Project Convergence training events at a fraction of the cost of doing so at other comparable locations without sacrificing any of the size, capability, and range of training scenarios available. NADWC's permissive dual-use drone testing policies, abundant spectrum availability, partnerships with cutting edge defense tech startups, and openness to on-site industry presence as a National Guard base make it a cost-effective, readily available hot bed for military tech testing.

- Unlike active-duty bases, each of Michigan's National Guard bases allow companies to lease space on-site and provide open access to industry partners to use military training ranges for commercial tech testing without a military sponsor. NADWC will give DoD ready access to Michigan defense tech companies, many already working with DoD; one of the largest 3D printing networks in the country; and a venture capital and technology incubator network with more than 100 startups in Michigan focused on dual-use critical capabilities like drones and their enabling technologies.
- NADWC provides broader and more frequent range availability for public and private stakeholders to

use at a fraction of the cost and wait time as other training ranges.

- NADWC's location in northern Michigan and over Lake Huron, the nation's second largest lake, offers a clean electromagnetic spectrum environment, with up to 6,000 frequencies and 4,000 miles of fiber on the Merit Cyber Range available for military use.
- Michigan is also a national leader in drone innovation and home to a dedicated sixty-mile-long and six-mile-wide drone corridor. In May 2024, NADWC hosted the first Uncrewed Triple Challenge, an Ironman race that tests drones' capabilities across air, land, and sea. The first-of-its-kind, public-private event gave DoD and the National Guard a live testbed for evaluating cutting-edge uncrewed systems for multi-domain autonomous battlefield supply.

For these reasons, we ask that you consider conducting Project Convergence experimentation events in Michigan this year. We look forward to the prospect of working together with you to make this happen. If you or your staff have questions, please contact Grace Kim (Grace_Kim@slotkin.senate.gov).

Sincerely,



Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Jack Bergman
Member of Congress



Tom Barrett
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



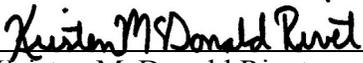
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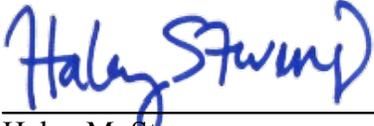
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