Space Florida, "public entity"

Number: INFORMAL

Date: March 21, 2013

Federal Aviation Administration
490 L'Enfant Plaza
Suite 3200
Washington, DC 20024

Subject: Public Entity Validation

Reference: FAA Unmanned Aircraft Systems Test Site Selection - Screening Information Request (SIR) DTFACT-13-R-00002, dated February 14, 2013

To whom it may concern:

Space Florida is an Independent Special District of the State of Florida, created by Chapter 331, Part II, Florida Statutes, for the purpose of fostering the growth and development of a sustainable and world-leading aerospace industry within the State of Florida.

Part II, Chapter 331, Florida Statutes, is entitled the "Space Florida Act." Space Florida is created in section 331.302, Florida Statutes:

"There is established, formed, and created Space Florida, which is created as an independent special district, a body politic and corporate, and a subdivision of the state, to foster the growth and development of a sustainable and world-leading aerospace industry in this state. Space Florida shall promote aerospace business development by facilitating business financing, spaceport operations, research and development, workforce development, and innovative education programs. Space Florida has all the powers, rights, privileges, and authority as provided under the laws of this state."

This letter serves as the official confirmation by Florida's Attorney General that Space Florida qualifies as a public entity of the State. As such, Space Florida would appear to fall within the scope of the definition contained in paragraph 9.2.2.2 of the above referenced FAA SIR and would have the ability to qualify for a Certificate of Authorization as provided therein. In sum, under Florida law, Space Florida is considered to be an independent special district and political subdivision of this state.

Sincerely,

Pam Bondi
Attorney General

PB/tgh