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**MEMORANDUM**

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**FROM:** LARRY RINGERS, CHIEF OF STAFF TO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JEFF KOTTKAMP  
**TO:** MEMBERS, REUSABLE SPACE VEHICLE INDUSTRY PRIZE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
**SUBJECT:** REUSABLE SPACE VEHICLE INDUSTRY PRIZE PROGRAM WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE  
**DATE:** 12/19/2008  
**CC:**

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Thank you for your willingness to serve on the Reusable Space Vehicle Industry Prize Program (RSVIPP) Development Committee. The purpose of RSVIPP is to spur competition and entrepreneurial investment in designing a reusable space vehicle. The competition will run from January 1, 2009 to January 1, 2014 and offer \$40 million to the company or individuals providing the most significant advancement toward designing and building a reusable space vehicle. Our task as a committee is to develop an application form, rules and guidelines related to submitting entries, judge the entries, and award the prize. To accommodate the January 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for the application rules and guidelines, we will have two meetings via conference call in December. The meetings will be:

December 11, 2009 at 11:00 AM  
December 17, 2009 at 2:00 PM

After January 1, 2009, meetings will be scheduled as necessary.

### **Statutory Charge**

For your reference, the RSVIPP has the following statutory charge:

Florida State Statute, 215.474 Section 5. Reusable Space Vehicle Industry Prize Program:

- (1) The Legislature finds that awarding a prize for achieving a specific goal stimulates entrepreneurial investment in the state, which ultimately produces a significant monetary return on the prize purse as well as considerable social benefit.
- (2) There is created within the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development of the Executive Office of the Governor a Reusable Space Vehicle Industry Prize Program.
- (3) The program shall award a one-time cash prize in the amount of \$40 million, including \$20 million in state funds and \$20 million in funds provided by private sponsors, to the firm or individual in the private sector providing the most significant

advancements within the reusable space vehicle industry during the period beginning January 1, 2009, and ending January 1, 2014.

(4) The Lieutenant Governor of Florida shall serve as chair of the program and appoint a committee for the purpose of establishing or adopting an application form, criteria for awarding the prize, and any other rules or guidelines related to the entry, judging, administration, or results of the program. The application and all other information shall be posted on the website of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development on or before January 1, 2009.

(5) The structure and operation of the program shall, to the extent practicable, mirror the Ansari X Prize program awarded by the X PRIZE FOUNDATION on November 6, 2004.

(6) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall adopt rules necessary to administer the program.

(7) The program shall terminate January 2, 2014.

### **Next Steps**

Attached is the framework for the application and proposed competition guidelines. Our first call, on December 11<sup>th</sup>, will be to discuss and determine appropriate amendments and additions to the proposed forms. The agenda for this meeting will be provided to committee members shortly, under separate cover. Ms. Ashley Ellis from my office will be staffing this effort, and her contact information is:

Ashley E. Ellis  
850.488.4711 (phone)  
ashley.ellis@myflorida.com

Please address all of your comments and suggestion amendments to the competition guidelines and the proposed application to Ms. Ellis prior to our first meeting. My office will distribute those to the committee members for review and discussion on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your time and I look forward to working with each of you on this exciting program.