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The South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority Welcomes the B-21 Raider to South Dakota !

The South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority (SDEDA), is exceptionally pleased with the United States Air Force's selection of Ellsworth Air Force Base (EAFB) as the first base to receive the B-21 Raider bomber, as well as, selecting EAFB to conduct the B-21 training program. This honor will hold a historical moment for South Dakota and the future of EAFB.

"The selection of Ellsworth Air Force Base is a great story of partnership and commitment between the State of South Dakota at the strategic level in fostering the conduct of its national defense mission and with South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority at the operational level addressing and responding to immediate needs and requirements," said Pat Burchill, Chairman, SDEDA Board of Directors. "It's all about partnership, team work and being relevant."

"Our mission has been to make sure that South Dakota is a great home and place for the Air Force to conduct its mission. This decision shows that the Air Force agrees. We look forward to continuing to partner with the Air Force for the next century," said Scott Landguth, Executive Director at SDEDA.

Created in 2009, by the State Legislature, SDEDA has partnered with EAFB on numerous requirements and high-level needs. From protecting over 4,000 acres of land adjacent to EAFB or located in high risk flight areas and higher noise zones; to protecting against operational encroachment; to supporting educational needs and enabling military spouse licensing and reciprocity initiatives; to the creation of a Class III Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant serving EAFB and the City of Box Elder with a daily average flow of 1.3 million gallons per day, SDEDA has directly supported and partnered with EAFB.

Scott Landguth, Executive Director, SDEDA, also expressed the significant growth and mission expansion of these B-21 assignment decisions.

"SDEDA would like to thank the USAF, Senator Thune, Senator Rounds, Representative Johnson, Governor Noem and their staff for their leadership and unwavering support. We remain focused and dedicated to serving our partnership with EAFB; enabling mission capacity, promoting the health and welfare of residents, protecting and promoting economic impact, and also preparing for additional growth in EAFB missions."

For more information on SDEDA, visit their website: ellsworthauthority.org