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December 17, 2012

Brigadier General Thomas E. Drew  
Office of the Adjutant General  
Camp Johnson  
789 Vermont National Guard Road  
Colchester, VT 05446

Dear Brigadier General Drew:

The Vermont Department of Health has been asked by concerned citizens to evaluate the potential health effects resulting from basing the F-35 jets at the Burlington Air Guard Station.

Health Department experts have reviewed the U.S. Air Force environmental impact statement and conducted a preliminary review of the relevant health research on possible health effects. Enclosed is our report, which includes some broad recommendations for addressing concerns of people who live in the area.

While I do not have authority over the decision of where to locate the F-35 jets, it is our mission and responsibility to protect the health of Vermonters. We look forward to working with the Air National Guard and others to make sure that any health concerns are identified, tracked and addressed to the best of our ability.

Sincerely,



Harry L. Chen, MD  
Commissioner of Health

cc: Brigadier General Steven Cray  
Representative Peter Welch  
Senator Patrick Leahy  
Senator Bernard Sanders

