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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Georgia Receives Expanded Role on National Space Council**

**WOODBINE, GEORGIA – February 22, 2017** – Wednesday, Vice President Mike Pence, Chairman of the National Space Council, announced individuals selected to serve on the National Space Council’s Users Advisory Group (UAG). Nominees for the Users Advisory Group include former astronauts, policy makers, military leaders and industry participants. The purpose of the UAG is to “foster close coordination, cooperation, and technology and information exchange” across the nation’s space enterprise.

Georgians nominated for the UAG include former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich and Georgia Tech President Bud Peterson. Eric Stallmer, President of the Commercial Spaceflight Federation was also nominated. Camden County Administrator and Spaceport project lead, Steve Howard serves on the board of directors for the Commercial Spaceflight Federation.

“Aerospace products are the #1 export from the State of Georgia, PriceWaterhouseCoopers named Georgia #1 in aerospace manufacturing attractiveness, Georgia is ranked #3 in aviation maintenance and repair and Georgia Tech’s aerospace engineering program ranks #2 in nation. Georgia is the hub for all things aerospace and it is great to see NASA and the White House recognize our state’s contributions to this important economic sector,” said Howard.

While the nominees were announced by the White House today, they must still be formally appointed by the NASA Administrator. A full list of the National Space Council’s Users Advisory Group can be found at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/vice-president-pence-announces-national-space-council-users-advisory-group/>.

**More about Spaceport Camden:** Our Vision is to develop a successful world class spaceport through a public-private partnership that establishes Camden County as the Commercial Space Center of the United States. Our Mission is to create the premier spaceport strategically positioned to provide economic diversity with a competitive advantage for the space sector, Camden County, the State of Georgia and the United States of America. For more information, please view our website at [www.SpaceportCamden.us](http://www.SpaceportCamden.us).

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