

May 26, 2026

The Honorable Troy E. Meink
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Air Force
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330

The Honorable Stevan Pearce
Director
Bureau of Land Management
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Lt. General William H. Graham, Jr.
Chief of Engineers and Commanding General
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20314

Dear Secretary Meink, Director Pearce, and Lt. General Graham,

The 2003 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA; P.L. 107-314 § 2843, 116 Stat. 2725-2726) authorized conveyance of up to approximately 15,000 acres of land to the City of West Wendover, Nevada for regional industrial and economic development purposes. This federal land was formerly utilized by the Department of the Air Force (DAF) as part of the former Wendover Bombing and Gunnery Range created under the war efforts of World War II and later identified as the Wendover Air Force Base Auxiliary Field.

In 2013, the DAF determined that 6,251 acres would ultimately be relinquished as a “Phase 1 Conveyance,” pending the completion of outstanding environmental reclamation requirements, as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980. Upon completion of CERCLA’s reclamation requirements, the land would be relinquished from the DAF back to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to then be conveyed to the City of West Wendover and a portion to Tooele County, UT/Wendover Airport for runway protection zones.

In 2022, the DAF initiated the environmental cleanup and later determined that full reclamation was not feasible on approximately 1.4 acres due to the high cost of abatement, along with the necessity to temporarily remove and restore multiple city utility lines. Instead, the DAF proposed implementing alternative “land use controls” (LUCs) on this 1.4 acres that would ultimately satisfy CERCLA requirements, thus allowing the land conveyance to move forward. However, after many years, the requisite funds needed to complete this final portion of the clean-up effort had not been prioritized for obligation within the Department for expenditure.

On May 8, 2026, my staff received confirmation from Mr. Robert Moriarty, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, that the DAF is now committing the remaining \$195,000 needed to amend the clean-up plan's Record of Decision (ROD) and implement the LUCs that will satisfy CERCLA requirements in order for the BLM to fully convey the land to the City. Furthermore, Mr. Moriarty confirmed an estimated award date of July 30, 2026 for the \$195,000 to be transmitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), who is contracted to complete the amended ROD on the DAF's behalf.

The City of West Wendover has awaited this conveyance for over 23 years. The transfer of these lands is importantly vital for the City's ability to implement its plans to bring new business and industry to the area.

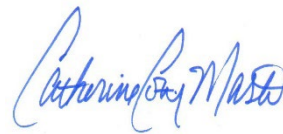
I am respectfully requesting the DAF, USACE, and BLM to coordinate efforts and work together to complete this land conveyance as promptly and expeditiously as possible. Please provide a response to the following requests for additional information.

1. A detailed list of the remaining actions to be undertaken by each agency that are necessary to complete the conveyance, resulting in the issuance of related land patent(s).
2. A timeline detailing the expected dates of completion of each action to be taken by all agencies.
3. An estimate of any additional funds needed to complete the conveyance outside of the \$195,000 that have already been committed by the Department of the Air Force.

This is a matter of great importance to my constituents whom have been waiting many years for the federal government to uphold this promise enacted under law. I look forward to working with you to complete this important transaction.

Thank you for your work on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Catherine Cortez Masto". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator