

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 7, 2013

Ms. Marillyn Hewson
Chief Executive Officer
Lockheed Martin Corporation
6801 Rockledge Dr.
Bethesda, MD 20817

Dear Ms. Hewson:

As Members of Congress who represent the City of Akron, we are writing to urge you to keep the Lockheed Martin plant in Akron, Ohio open. This factory not only provides jobs for Northeast Ohioans and helps to stimulate the local economy, it is situated in a State that has the nation's 10th largest highway network and is a one-day drive from 70 percent of North America's manufacturing capacity. We are deeply disappointed by recent reports that indicate Lockheed has developed a draft business plan that would result in a restructuring of its operation. It has come to our attention that the closure of the Akron facility is included in that plan. This closure would displace many employees, consequently forcing long-standing Ohio families to relocate to other states, while also impacting the Ohio economy.

While we understand that the sequester has threatened the short-term financial outlook of the business, closing facilities and relocating employees will cause damage to the economies of the City of Akron and State of Ohio. If employees of the Akron plant are relocated to Florida and/or New York, the loss of approximately 600 jobs would deliver a major blow to the area. The city would not only lose residents, the loss of tax revenue would have a systemic effect on the local economy as well.

As the birthplace of global aviation, Ohio's aerospace industry is one of the state's largest and most important industries. Ohio has more than 1,200 businesses in the aerospace and defense industry and our state is the #1 U.S. supplier to Boeing and Airbus. Additionally, Ohio is home to critical aerospace resources like the NASA Glenn Research Center, Wright Patterson Air Force Base and the Edison technology centers, which provide invaluable technology, research and development, commercialization, and procurement resources to many Ohio businesses.

Your Akron workers have been devoted to the success of Lockheed Martin for many years and the entire community stands behind the company. As Lockheed continues to review its plans, which will determine what actions are required to maintain its competitiveness and health of its business, we ask that it remember the tremendous aerospace resources Ohio has to offer and the effects that a closure would have on the constituents of our Congressional districts. It is our hope that Lockheed Martin will develop an alternative option, which would keep the Akron facility open. We look forward to working with you to save Ohio jobs.

Sincerely,



Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Sherrod Brown
United States
Senator



Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress