



19 March, 2009

Congressman Collin Peterson
2211 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Reference: FY10 Project Request Titled "Polaris Defense Ultra Light Utility Vehicles (ULUVs) For The National Guard"

Congressman Peterson, Polaris respectfully submitted an FY10 Project request for the purchase of Ultra Light Utility Vehicles (ULUVs) For The National Guard. In December of 2008, the National Guard added Ultra Light Utility Vehicles to their FY10 "Top 25" Equipment Modernization Shortfall List. Signed by LTG Clyde Vaughn, Chief of the Army National Guard, this addition to the Top 25 list confirms the critical need for lighter, smaller, more cost effective vehicles to perform logistics and support functions, as well as homeland security functions, both at home and in the Global War on Terrorism. This request provides funding for Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) All Terrain Ultra Light Utility Vehicles (ULUV) - which can and do meet this critical need today. This request Provides Value For The Taxpayer because:

- **ULUVs Are Affordable And Cost Effective**— at less than \$20k unit cost— they are a fraction of the cost of one HMMWV. These vehicles can do a number of the missions currently being accomplished using the HMMWV, cheaper, and in many cases better – freeing them up for combat critical missions.
- **Dual Use Nature Of ULUVs Well Suited For Needs Of The National Guard** - As the Guard is called upon to go to war, as well as called upon at home, the DUAL USE nature of these vehicles make the need all the greater. 14 States have expressed a need for these vehicles, including South Dakota. Many TAGs have written letters to LTG Clyde Vaughn in support of the purchase of ULUVs.
- **ULUVs Provide Mission Flexibility** - ULUVs are highly capable, highly versatile vehicles that will continue to be needed to support Defense Department, State and Homeland Security operations and have been used extensively by all the Services in both CONUS and OCONUS operations. With the ability to operate in rugged off road conditions, at high altitudes without modification, these vehicles have truly gone wherever our forces wanted to go. They have been used in the homeland mission for drug interdiction, perimeter security, range control, flight-line support, MPs, base ops, public works and many other missions.
- **ULUVs Have A Lighter Environmental Footprint** – Given ULUVs are significantly smaller and lighter than Humvees, SUVs and Trucks, they have a significantly lighter environmental footprint. This is important on test ranges, training sites and many other areas where the National Guard operates.

This project is a good example of why the earmark process can be effectively utilized to field vehicles that are needed and supported by the National Guard , but given they don't have their own procurement budgets, some times takes many years to accomplish. Funding this project will accomplish this sooner, and help provide fuel to maintain Polaris as a world leader in off-road vehicles, both for the military and commercial markets.

Thank you for your support,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark McCormick".

Mark McCormick
Managing Director
Polaris Defense