



Opening the Future for Business in Jefferson County, Colorado

January 18, 2012

Mr. David Kappos
Director
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Mr. Kappos:

Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation (Jeffco EDC) strongly supports establishing a U.S. Patent and Trademark (USPTO) satellite office in the metropolitan Denver, Colorado area.

We are the economic development organization for Jefferson County, Colorado—part of the western corridor of metropolitan Denver. Jefferson County is one of the most populated counties in Colorado, housing a highly-educated workforce. The county has a large concentration of federal employees working and living here. It is home to the Denver Federal Center— a 623-acre campus consisting of fifty-five federal buildings, totaling four million square feet of rentable space with 6,200 federal employees. This is the largest concentration of federal agencies outside of Washington D.C.

With over 40,000 businesses in our community, we have a long history of developing and incubating strong, high-tech industry clusters that include aerospace, bioscience and energy. Innovation is engrained in Jefferson County's culture making it an ideal place for a USPTO satellite office. Examples of our major innovative drivers in the community include:

- Lockheed Martin (LMCO)—LMCO employs about 11,300 people in Colorado. Half of them work at the Space Systems headquarters in Jefferson County creating advanced technology systems for space and defense. Recent contract wins/growth areas for the aerospace company locally include: Global Positioning Satellite III, Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle project and United Launch Alliance (joint venture with Boeing).
- The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)—The U.S. Dept. of Energy's premier and only laboratory dedicated entirely to renewable energy and energy efficiency research and development. Already occupying 516,000 square-feet in the Denver West area, NREL received a \$101 million budget increase for a major long-term campus expansion at South Table Mountain. A 218,000 square-foot, \$84 million Research Support Facility was recently completed.
- Spin-offs from NREL—Many companies and technologies have developed as a result of NREL's research. PrimeStar Solar, located in Arvada, spun out of the Lab and was recently purchased by General Electric solar panels. GE is investing more than \$600 million in a solar business built around PrimeStar's technology.

- Colorado School of Mines (CSM)—CSM is a public research university internationally recognized for its leadership in engineering, applied science and related disciplines. It is one of the few universities in the world to offer education from baccalaureate through doctorate levels in all key fields related to energy. The university has a growing technology transfer division.

Metropolitan Denver, Colorado plays an important central role for our region and is a great strategic location for a USPTO satellite office. Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 303-202-2965.

Sincerely,



Kevin McCasky
President and CEO

cc: Monisha Merchant – U.S. Senator Michael Bennet