Mr. Hugh C. Miller, Director  
Department of Historic Resources  
221 Governor Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

SUBJECT: National Historic Landmark (NHL)  
Lunar Excursion Module Simulator (LEMS)  
Refurbishment and Preservation Undertaking

Dear Mr. Miller:

Shortly after writing your department on September 26, 1989, Langley Research Center (LaRC) received notification and particulars on the Programmatic Agreement among the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), The National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO), and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP). The Agreement, effective September 20, 1989, now regulates our efforts regarding the LEMS and other NHLs.

The LEMS, a portable apparatus, is unique in comparison to the fixed-in-place nature of typical NHLs. It is a craft rather than an immovable structure in the usual sense. The justification for this NHL status is mobility itself, and the surviving hardware retains its historic significance regardless of location.

Accordingly, under the terms and intent of the Agreement, LaRC finds that the proposed LEMS refurbishment followed by permanent and protective museum display to be a "Category B" undertaking. Therefore, LaRC is developing and implementing mitigation measures as referenced in Agreement paragraphs I.B., III and IV A. Indeed, the entire undertaking of relocating the LEMS to museum shelter is a mitigation measure. At its secluded original site, the LEMS would not likely have survived the elements nor have been seen by the public.

The required summary in December 1990 of annual activities will report on progress of this undertaking. Both the Recordation and the Salvage provisions of the Agreement are being implemented and will be documented.
Your continuing assistance in the discharge of LaRC's responsibilities in preservation is appreciated.

"ORIGINAL SIGNED BY"

Richard H. Petersen
Director

Concur: Paul F. Holloway
Deputy Director

cc:
The Advisory Council on
Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20004

NASA Headquarters,
Attn: Code NX Mr. Norm Willis
Washington, DC 20546

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