



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

Mr. John Reynolds, Chairman
Flight 93 National Memorial Advisory Commission
109 Main Street
Somerset, Pennsylvania 15501

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

I have had the opportunity to review the November 14, 2003 Resolution of the Flight 93 Advisory Commission advising on an interim boundary determination for the Flight 93 National Memorial. The resolution requests that I exercise the authority granted under Section 5(8) of Public Law 107-226 to begin acquiring certain lands for the memorial.

It is my understanding that the lands included in the Commission's resolution comprise the Flight 93 impact site, certain properties within the viewshed of the impact site, and lands that are associated with access to the Memorial from Route 30. These constitute approximately 1500 acres.

I am pleased to inform the Commission of my acceptance of your advice to authorize the National Park Service to immediately begin acquisition of the fenced area (\pm 100 acres) since this area is most critical and needs immediate protection. While generally concurring with the concept of the remaining areas proposed in the resolution, I request that the Commission consider additional lands immediately south, southeast and southwest of the current proposal as it continues to refine a final recommended boundary of the National Memorial.

Please allow me once again to express my strong support for the work of the Commission as it proceeds with the challenging task given to it by Congress in Public Law 107-226. I look forward to receiving your recommendations regarding the design, management and boundary of the Flight 93 National Memorial.

Sincerely,

Gale A. Norton