

JOHN THUNE, SOUTH DAKOTA  
ROY BLUNT, MISSOURI  
TED CRUZ, TEXAS  
DEB FISCHER, NEBRASKA  
JERRY MORAN, KANSAS  
DAN SULLIVAN, ALASKA  
CORY GARDNER, COLORADO  
MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE  
SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, WEST VIRGINIA  
MIKE LEE, UTAH  
RON JOHNSON, WISCONSIN  
TODD YOUNG, INDIANA  
RICK SCOTT, FLORIDA

MARIA CANTWELL, WASHINGTON  
AMY KLOBUCHAR, MINNESOTA  
RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, CONNECTICUT  
BRIAN SCHATZ, HAWAII  
EDWARD MARKEY, MASSACHUSETTS  
TOM UDALL, NEW MEXICO  
GARY PETERS, MICHIGAN  
TAMMY BALDWIN, WISCONSIN  
TAMMY DUCKWORTH, ILLINOIS  
JON TESTER, MONTANA  
KYRSTEN SINEMA, ARIZONA  
JACKY ROSEN, NEVADA

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

WEBSITE: <http://commerce.senate.gov>

JOHN KEAST, STAFF DIRECTOR  
DAVID STRICKLAND, DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

October 30, 2019

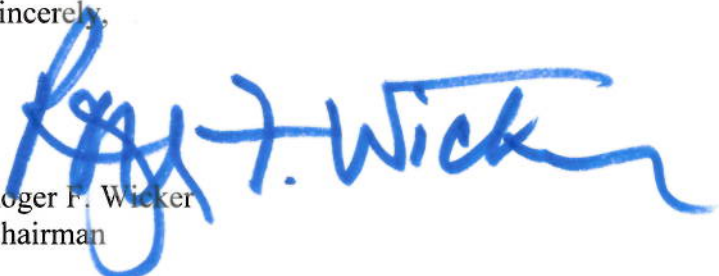
The Honorable Stephen Dickson  
Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
800 Independence Avenue, Southwest  
Washington, D.C. 20591

Dear Administrator Dickson,

It has come to my attention that yesterday the FAA sent a letter to Southwest Airlines demanding additional information about a number of aircraft that may not meet airworthiness certification requirements. This is troubling and also corresponds to concerns that have been brought to my attention by whistleblowers as a part of my investigation into aviation safety. The preliminary results of my ongoing investigation suggest the initial airworthiness certificates for all 88 airplanes may not have been properly conducted. I am continuing to gather facts related to this matter.

As my work proceeds, I would like to reiterate the need for improved cooperation and responsiveness from the FAA. I have previously reached out requesting a number of documents related to my aviation safety investigation, and as I stated in my October 23 letter, I have yet to receive many of the items I have identified. I would again ask that you provide these documents and keep my staff apprised of the ongoing concerns at Southwest Airlines.

Sincerely,

  
Roger F. Wicker  
Chairman