



GO BEYOND

Pratt & Whitney
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July 12, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Pratt & Whitney (P&W), a division of Raytheon Technologies Corporation, supports the North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The grant if awarded to NCDOT would go to support the construction of an interstate interchange by NCDOT along I-26 in Buncombe County, NC.

Pratt & Whitney is a world leader in the design, manufacture and service of aircraft engines and auxiliary power units. In October 2020, P&W announced it plans to invest at least \$650 million in a world-class turbine airfoil production facility in Buncombe County, NC. The Project will create 800 jobs with an average wage of \$68,000 through 2027. The new, state-of-the-art 1,000,000-square-foot facility will feature cutting-edge technologies and implement best-in-class manufacturing processes exemplifying industry 4.0 manufacturing principles.

The turbine airfoils that will be produced in this facility will primarily support P&W's Geared Turbo Fan (GTF) Engine family of products for large commercial aircraft and regional jets. Pratt & Whitney GTF engines will help drive more efficient and sustainable air travel as demonstrated by its 16% improvement in fuel efficiency, 50% reduction in regulated NOx emissions and 75% reduction in noise footprint.

Design and construction of the Asheville facility will meet P&W's environmental, sustainability, and conservation standards. This includes attainment of a Zero Discharge Permit, LEED Green Building Standards and 100% achievement of best practices for wastewater, energy and greenhouse gases. As design of the facility continues, P&W is contemplating additional sustainability practices at the facility to include the use of solar and Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations, amongst others.

The proposed interchange is a very important part of the project as well as for that area of Western North Carolina. Access to the area will help P&W recruit from a broad and diverse pool of candidates from within the region. Ease of access positively impacts the employees commuting, local suppliers, and transporting goods and materials. This type of improvement in infrastructure will improve congestion and stimulate commerce as we look for local businesses to partner with.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dan Field
Project Execution Lead
Pratt & Whitney