

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center**  
2101 NASA Parkway  
Houston, Texas 77058-3696



August 13, 2018

Reply to Attn of: BG-19-151

Center for Advancement of Science in Space  
Attn: Andrei Ruckenstein  
Co-Chair, CASIS Board of Directors  
6905 N. Wickham Road, Suite 500  
Melbourne, FL 32940

Subject: Center for Advancement of Science In Space (CASIS) Cooperative Agreement No. NNH11CD70A/80JSC018M0005

Pursuant to Paragraph 4.6, Change in Principal Investigator or Scope, of the subject cooperative agreement, the CASIS decision to change or significantly reduce the availability of services of the International Space Station National Laboratory Principal Investigator (PI), Dr. Joe Vockley (Cooperative Agreement Paragraph 3.1.g), is not approved at this time.

The NASA Associate Administrator for Human Exploration & Operations is requesting a strategic pause in CASIS activities relative to changes in the CASIS PI in order to enable NASA to establish an Independent Review Team to assess the underlying Cooperative Agreement to ensure we are on mission and appropriately resourced to produce breakthroughs that improve lives on Earth. NASA anticipates that this assessment will be completed within 12 weeks after the team has been established.

Future correspondence and a final decision on CASIS's plans relative to the PI will be forthcoming following this strategic pause and assessment.

NASA considers the Cooperative Agreement provision regarding the PI as a material term or condition within the agreement, noncompliance with which may subject CASIS to the remedies listed a 2 CFR Section 200.338, including the provision at 200.338(a) relative to withholding of payments.

Please contact the undersigned at [kendrea.d.vallien@nasa.gov](mailto:kendrea.d.vallien@nasa.gov) or 281-244-7176.

Kendrea D. Vallien  
Grants Officer

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