

### Board of Directors

**William BC Crandall, MBA**  
Founder, Abundant Planet

**Larry Gorman, Ph.D.**  
Professor of Finance  
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

**Peter Howard, Ph.D.**  
Senior Scientist, Exelixis, Inc.  
South San Francisco, CA

7 August 2009

### Board of Advisors

**Frans von der Dunk, Ph.D**  
Professor of Space Law  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Martin Elvis, Ph.D**  
Senior Astrophysicist, Harvard-  
Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

**Dante Lauretta, Ph.D.**  
Director, Southwest Meteorite Center  
University of Arizona, Tucson

**Jordi Puig-Suari, Ph.D.**  
Professor of Aerospace Engineering  
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

**Hon. Andrea Seastrand**  
Executive Director  
California Space Authority

**Mark Sonter, MAppSc**  
Asteroid Enterprises, Pty Ltd  
Queensland, Australia

General James L. Jones, USMC (Ret)  
National Security Advisor  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington, DC 20500

“A 21<sup>st</sup> Century space policy ... and accompanying vision, must redress the unbalanced emphasis in our civil space program from a narrow focus on science and exploration toward an appreciation and enablement of development, exploitation, and **expansion of humanity’s sphere of economic activity.**”  
—Lt. Col. Peter Garretson (2009)

“**Asteroids** are a combination of long-term resource, potential threat, and great scientific interest. [This] sells a heck of a lot better to the general public than going back to the moon.”  
—Rusty Schweickart, Apollo Astronaut (2009)

Dear General Jones,

President Obama’s government-wide review of space policy sets the context for an unprecedented reframing of the space value proposition. In our letter to the Augustine Committee (enclosed, and: <http://abundantplanet.org/letters>), we argue that:

1. Our national civil space agency must be able to show how its efforts benefit the public;
2. The clearest way to show real benefits is the economic development of space resources; and that
3. The key to genuinely sustainable space development is establishing commercial profitability.

Our national civil space agency should be directed to help secure new sources of **critical minerals and renewable energy**, which are available in space.

By developing near-Earth resources—**asteroid minerals and solar power**—we can increase American, and global, economic and environmental security, while simultaneously “pursuing the best trajectory for the future of human space flight—one that is safe, innovative, affordable, and [*economically*] sustainable” (the goal of the Augustine Committee).

Because of your vital role in our national dialogue on resource, security, and space policy, we ask you to help change our nation's space policy to focus primarily on space resources. Please take up this critical conversation with your fellow recipients of the enclosed letter:

- President Barack Obama
- General James L. Jones, National Security Advisor
- Dr. Christina Romer, Chair, Council of Economic Advisers
- Dr. John Holdren, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy
- Peter J. Marquez, Director, Space Policy, National Security Council
- Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State
- Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior
- Gary Locke, Secretary of Commerce
- Dr. Steven Chu, Secretary of Energy
- Charles F. Bolden, Jr., NASA Administrator
- Michèle Flournoy, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
- Joseph D. Rouge, Director, National Security Space Office, Air Force Pentagon
- Sandra Clark, Director, Office of Economic Policy Analysis, Department of State
- Suzette Kimball, Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior
- Senator Harry Reid, Majority Leader
- Senator Jay Rockefeller, Chair, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
- Senator Bill Nelson, Chair, Subcommittee on Science and Space
- Senator Barbara Boxer, Member, Subcommittee on Science and Space
- Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House
- Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Chair, Joint Economic Committee
- Congressman Bart Gordon, Chair, Committee on Science and Technology
- Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, Chair, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
- Congressman Alan Grayson, Member, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
- Congressman Dana Rohrabacher, Member, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
- Congressman Henry A. Waxman, Chair, Committee on Energy and Commerce
- Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce
- Congressman Nick J. Rahall, II, Chair, Committee on Natural Resources
- Congressman Jim Costa, Chair, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
- Dr. Charles F. Kennel, Chair, Space Studies Board, National Research Council
- Dr. Joan Johnson-Freese, Member, Space Studies Board, National Research Council
- Dr. Molly K. Macauley, Member, Space Studies Board, National Research Council
- Dr. Edward C. Stone, Vice-President & U.S. Representative, COSPAR (Committee on Space Research); Director Emeritus, JPL; Professor of Physics, Cal Tech
- Dr. James Bell, III, President, The Planetary Society; Professor & Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Astronomy, Cornell University

I would be happy to discuss any of this material with you. Thank you for your efforts to “expand humanity’s sphere of economic activity” beyond the home planet.

Sincerely yours,

William BC Crandall  
President & Director  
[bc.crandall@abundantplanet.org](mailto:bc.crandall@abundantplanet.org)

7 August 2009

2 of 2

**AbundantPlanet.org**  
A Public Benefit 501(c)3  
California Corporation

**2900-E Broadway  
Redwood City  
CA 94062**

**650.361.9111**