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Exhibit R-2, RDT&E Budget Item Justification: PB 2023 Air Force **Date:** April 2022

Appropriation/Budget Activity 3620F: <i>Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Space Force I BA 6: RDT&E Management Support</i>	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 1206860SF / <i>Rocket Systems Launch Program (SPACE)</i>
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COST (\$ in Millions)	Prior Years	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023 Base	FY 2023 OCO	FY 2023 Total	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
Total Program Element	-	17.710	17.769	17.922	0.000	17.922	20.076	20.127	20.120	20.512	Continuing	Continuing
661023: <i>Rocket System Launch Program (RSLP)</i>	-	17.710	17.769	17.922	0.000	17.922	20.076	20.127	20.120	20.512	Continuing	Continuing
Quantity of RDT&E Articles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification

Rocket Systems Launch Program (RSLP) provides responsive space and Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) launch vehicle support to DoD and other government agencies using commercial launch systems and excess ballistic missile assets. The RSLP mission was established by the Secretary of Defense in 1972. The small launch program complements the National Security Space Launch (NSSL) program with multiple options to acquire dedicated spacelift and rideshare services for developmental, demonstration, and small operational space vehicles. It provides mission planning, payload integration, vehicle acquisition, processing, launch operations, booster storage and disposition, aging surveillance, maintenance and logistics support for selected DoD responsive space and RDT&E launches. Costs directly attributable to a specific launch or program (e.g., reliability of flight testing, maintenance of launch vehicle processing infrastructure) are paid by the user (Space Force, Navy, Army, Missile Defense Agency (MDA), Defense Advanced Research Project Agency (DARPA), National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), etc.). RSLP maintains exclusive control of decommissioned Minuteman and Peacekeeper assets used in testing to include refurbishment, transportation and handling, storage, aging surveillance, and launch services. RSLP also funds general research, development, prototyping, integration, and supplemental reliability of flight testing efforts for launch to enhance the reliability of the Minotaur and other fleet vehicles (e.g., updates to the Modular Mechanical Ordnance Destruct System).

Space acquisition must respond with speed and agility to emerging adversary threats. Space Systems Command (SSC) is transforming the organization and implementation of space acquisition to an enterprise approach, to increase innovation and resiliency, leveraging international, commercial, and mission partnerships, and managing program/project priorities according to an integrated unclassified/classified enterprise space architecture. Expanding the appropriate acquisition authorities and contract mechanisms to deliver capability sooner, SSC will strategically execute experimentation, prototyping, risk reduction, and other efforts to develop new or repurpose existing capabilities.

This program element may include necessary civilian pay expenses required to manage, execute, and deliver Rocket Systems Launch weapon system capability. The use of such program funds would be in addition to the civilian pay expenses budgeted in program elements 1206392SF and 1206398SF.

The FY 2023 funding request was reduced by \$1.079M to account for the availability of prior year execution balances.

This program is in Budget Activity 6, RDT&E Management Support because this budget activity includes research, development, test and evaluation efforts and funds to sustain and/or modernize the installations or operations required for general research, development, test and evaluation.

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B. Program Change Summary (\$ in Millions)	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023 Base	FY 2023 OCO	FY 2023 Total
Previous President's Budget	17.993	17.769	0.000	0.000	0.000
Current President's Budget	17.710	17.769	17.922	0.000	17.922
Total Adjustments	-0.283	0.000	17.922	0.000	17.922
• Congressional General Reductions	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Directed Reductions	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Rescissions	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Adds	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Directed Transfers	0.000	0.000			
• Reprogrammings	0.000	0.000			
• SBIR/STTR Transfer	-0.283	0.000			
• Other Adjustments	0.000	0.000	17.922	0.000	17.922

Change Summary Explanation

FY 2023: The FY 2022 President's Budget submittal did not reflect FY 2023 through FY 2026 funding. Therefore, an explanation of the change between the two positions for FY 2023 cannot be made in a relevant manner.

C. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
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Title: Storage/Refurbishment/Flight Readiness/Demil	14.768	14.827	14.980
Description: Storage, refurbishment, inventory control, and demil/disposal of decommissioned Minuteman, Peacekeeper and other missile flight test assets			
FY 2022 Plans: Continue storage, refurbishment, inventory control, and demil/disposal of decommissioned Minuteman, Peacekeeper and other missile flight test assets and perform research and development support operations as required. Investigate and develop shipping throughput capacity to maximize opportunity for motor disposal. Continue support activities to include but not limited to sustainment replacement and refurbishment of support equipment, mission support, special studies etc.			
FY 2023 Plans: Continue storage, refurbishment, inventory control, and demil/disposal of decommissioned Minuteman, Peacekeeper and other missile flight test assets and perform research and development support operations as required. Investigate and develop shipping throughput capacity to maximize opportunity for motor disposal. Continue support activities to include but not limited to sustainment replacement and refurbishment of support equipment, mission support, special studies etc.			
FY 2022 to FY 2023 Increase/Decrease Statement:			

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C. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)		FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
FY 2023 increased due to inflation adjustments.				
<p>Title: Aging Surveillance</p> <p>Description: Perform aging surveillance-related activities on stored motors</p> <p>FY 2022 Plans: Continue performing aging surveillance-related activities on stored motors; continue performing analysis/studies to identify and evaluate potential safety-related issues affecting stored motors; continue program office support and related support activities such as, but not limited to mission support, special studies, etc.</p> <p>FY 2023 Plans: Continue performing aging surveillance-related activities on stored motors; continue performing analysis/studies to identify and evaluate potential safety-related issues affecting stored motors; continue program office support and related support activities such as, but not limited to mission support, special studies, etc.</p> <p>FY 2022 to FY 2023 Increase/Decrease Statement: N/A</p>		2.142	2.142	2.142
<p>Title: Other Launch Support Services</p> <p>Description: Perform Launch Services Activities</p> <p>FY 2022 Plans: Continue launch vehicle acquisition, processing, launch services support, mission assurance, reliability of flight and operations to launch RDT&E payloads.</p> <p>Implement system resiliency and situational awareness necessary to operate in the contested space domain. Activities may include, but are not limited to program office support, studies, technical analysis, prototyping, etc.</p> <p>FY 2023 Plans: Continue launch vehicle acquisition, processing, launch services support including responsive launch, mission assurance, reliability of flight and operations to launch RDT&E payloads.</p> <p>Implement system resiliency and situational awareness necessary to operate in the contested space domain. Activities may include, but are not limited to program office support, studies, technical analysis, prototyping, etc.</p> <p>FY 2022 to FY 2023 Increase/Decrease Statement:</p>		0.800	0.800	0.800

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C. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
N/A			
Accomplishments/Planned Programs Subtotals	17.710	17.769	17.922

D. Other Program Funding Summary (\$ in Millions)
N/A

Remarks

E. Acquisition Strategy
N/A