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Exhibit R-2, RDT&E Budget Item Justification: PB 2025 Air Force **Date:** March 2024

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 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
Total Program Element	-	33.643	18.023	20.134	0.000	20.134	20.123	20.538	21.279	21.699	Continuing	Continuing
661023: <i>Rocket System Launch Program (RSLP)</i>	-	33.643	18.023	20.134	0.000	20.134	20.123	20.538	21.279	21.699	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 non-Space Force users (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 a variety of launch vehicles using RSLP motors for suborbital and orbital missions (e.g., updates to the Modular Mechanical Ordnance Destruct System).

While the corresponding RSLP Procurement, Space Force line is set to 0 due to no planned procurements of Space Force funded missions, the activities funded by this RDT&E line are still required to safely store and maintain the RSLP inventory of launch assets.

This program element may include necessary civilian pay expenses required to manage, execute, and deliver 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. In PY 0.0M was expended for civilian pay expenses in this program element, and in CY 0.180M is forecasted for civilian pay expenses in this program element.

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 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total
Previous President's Budget	34.872	18.023	20.099	0.000	20.099
Current President's Budget	33.643	18.023	20.134	0.000	20.134
Total Adjustments	-1.229	0.000	0.035	0.000	0.035
• Congressional General Reductions	-0.050	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	-1.179	0.000			
• Other Adjustments	0.000	0.000	0.035	0.000	0.035

Congressional Add Details (\$ in Millions, and Includes General Reductions)

Project: 661023: *Rocket System Launch Program (RSLP)*

Congressional Add: *State Launched Range Services*

Congressional Add Subtotals for Project: 661023

Congressional Add Totals for all Projects

	FY 2023	FY 2024
	17.000	-
	17.000	-
	17.000	-

C. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Title: Storage/Refurbishment/Flight Readiness/Demil Description: Storage, refurbishment, inventory control, and demil/disposal of decommissioned Minuteman, Peacekeeper and other missile flight test assets FY 2024 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 2025 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	13.701	14.930	16.470

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C. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)		FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
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 2024 to FY 2025 Increase/Decrease Statement: FY 2025 increased compared to FY 2024 due to an adjustment for inflation increased labor/material costs and to support demil of the least useful RSLP Motors.				
Title: Aging Surveillance Description: Perform aging surveillance-related activities on stored motors FY 2024 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. FY 2025 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. FY 2024 to FY 2025 Increase/Decrease Statement: FY 2025 increased compared to FY 2024 due to an adjustment for inflation increased labor/material costs.		2.142	2.193	2.700
Title: Other Launch Support Services Description: Perform Launch Services Activities FY 2024 Plans: Continue launch vehicle acquisition, processing, launch services support including responsive launch, mission assurance, reliability of flight and operations to launch RDT&E payloads. Rapidly respond to 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. FY 2025 Plans: Continue launch vehicle acquisition, processing, launch services support including responsive launch, mission assurance, reliability of flight and operations to launch RDT&E payloads.		0.800	0.900	0.964

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C. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Rapidly respond to 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, experimentation, prototyping, and activities that may leverage commercial and international opportunities.			
<i>FY 2024 to FY 2025 Increase/Decrease Statement:</i> FY 2025 increased compared to FY 2024 due to an adjustment for inflation increased labor/material costs.			
Accomplishments/Planned Programs Subtotals	16.643	18.023	20.134

	FY 2023	FY 2024
<i>Congressional Add:</i> State Launched Range Services	17.000	-
<i>FY 2023 Accomplishments:</i> Improved spaceports that are commercially licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration and receive funding from the local or State government. Enhanced capacity to provide mid-to-low inclination orbits and polar-to-high inclination orbits in support of national security space programs.		
Congressional Adds Subtotals	17.000	-

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

N/A

Remarks

E. Acquisition Strategy

N/A