



where the old frontier meets the new frontier



**15th ANNUAL FAA-AST CONFERENCE
FEB 16, 2012**

**Christine Anderson
Executive Director
New Mexico Spaceport Authority**

- **Location: High desert in southern NM, near US Army White Sands Missile Range**
- **18,000 acres state land**
- **Anchor tenant: Virgin Galactic**
- **Supports Horizontal and Vertical launch**
- **FAA Licensed for Vertical Launch since 2008**
- **14 vertical launches to date**



- **NMSA was created July 1, 2006 via the Spaceport Development Act**
- **NMSA Board of Directors are appointed by the Governor**
- **Executive Director responsible for development and operation of the Spaceport**
- **Initial funding provided by the State: capital outlay and local tax bonds (\$209M)**
- **Goal: Spaceport will be self-sustaining by 2014**



Spaceport America Strategic Goals

- **Self-sustaining and profitable**
- **Robust economic engine for local area and State**
- **Efficient and effective operations for all customers**
- **Promote tourism to New Mexico**
- **Enhance STEM education**



Spaceport America Challenges

- **Many stakeholders**
- **Public venue vs. secure site**
- **Business enterprise in state gov't**
- **Emerging customer base**



- **Revenue Diversification**
 - Facility lease / ground rent
 - User Fees
 - Visitor Experience
 - Brand partnerships
- **State incentives**
 - Job Training Credits
 - Sales Tax Credits/Exemptions
 - Manufacturing Tax Credits
 - Rural Job Creation Tax Credits



Voted by New York Times and Travel Channel as Top Destination in 2012

Looking Ahead

- **Spaceport America is the first purpose-built, commercial spaceport to be completed by 2013**
- **Anchor tenant will be the first commercial passenger spaceline**
- **Licensed by FAA for horizontal launches by 2013**
- **Customers to include space launch enterprises, tourists, and students**
- **Tourism destination; forecasting 200k/yr by 2014**



View of Southern NM from 51 miles up taken on board Armadillo Aerospace STIG-A III, Jan 28, 2012