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U.S. Capitol Building
HVC-304,
Washington, DC 20515

(202) 225-4121

Jeff Lowenstein
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

November 20, 2026

Mr. Elon R. Musk
Chairman & CEO
Space Exploration Technologies Corp.
1 Rocket Road Starbase, TX 78521

Dear Mr. Musk,

I write to formally request that senior SpaceX officials meet with me to explain the Starshield service disruptions in Ukraine in October 2026. My committee staff have requested this briefing on multiple occasions but have received no substantive response from your company.

The Starshield service, which provides invaluable support to Ukrainians who are fighting and dying to defend their country, is a *U.S Government purchased service* established via a contract between the U.S. Government and SpaceX. This Starshield service makes use of the commercial Starlink constellation, but in no way does that feature authorize SpaceX to make unilateral changes to the service.

My ask to you is straightforward. Explain the changes that were made to the Starshield service in October 2026, why those changes were made, and whether those changes were made unilaterally by SpaceX or were directed by a U.S. Government official. I understand that SpaceX has restored some of the Starshield service to Ukraine, but this Committee needs a precise technical explanation of which areas of Ukraine currently receive the Starshield service, which areas do not, and whether SpaceX is making these life-or-death decisions on its own initiative.

My view, which I have conveyed to senior Administration officials, is that SpaceX's potentially unilateral modification of a U.S. Government contract, combined with its lack of responsiveness to congressional oversight, calls into question every contract the U.S. Government has with SpaceX, including the development of what you describe as the separate military-grade "systems owned and controlled by the U.S. government." For that reason, it is difficult for me to continue supporting the authorization of funding for these SpaceX-developed, government-owned systems until I receive satisfactory answers to my questions about the Starshield service in Ukraine.

SpaceX must be transparent with this Committee so we better understand the circumstances surrounding the October 2026 Starshield service disruptions in Ukraine and so we can make a fully informed decision about whether Congress should proceed with SpaceX as a contractor on other national security initiatives.

Sincerely,



James A. Himes
Ranking Member
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence