JACKIE SPEIER
14TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

211 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0512
(202) 225-3531
FAX: (202) 226-4183

155 BOVET ROAD, SUITE 780
SAN MATEO, CA 94402
(650) 342-0300
FAX: (650) 375-8270

WWW.SPEIER.HOUSE.GOV

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0512

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Vice Chair

July 31, 2014

Mr. John Martin
Director
San Francisco International Airport
PO Box 8097
San Francisco, CA 94128-8097

Mr. Tony DiBernardo
Sierra Pacific District Manager
1027 Grumman Street
Oakland, CA 94621

Dear Mr. Martin and Mr. DiBernardo:

As you both know, Kalitta Air Flight 2837 flew over the City of Brisbane at approximately 3 a.m. on July 29th. The flight was so low and so loud that my office received many calls and messages from people who reported that they were terrified.

I have been informed by the airport's noise office that the flight was technically in compliance with the departure rules. I find it deeply troubling that an airplane operating within the rules can be so disruptive. My understanding is that this particular "Fly Quiet" departure was recently revised, and this incident suggests that it might need another revision. Since Kalitta Air operates fewer than ten flights per year out of SFO, it seems apparent that with so little experience at the airport, its pilots may not understand the rules or conditions very well and may therefore require additional training.

My staff has already requested that the airport noise office obtain evidence that Kalitta Air will not depart San Francisco International Airport in that manner ever again. I respectfully reiterate the request in this letter. I also ask for a written apology from the airline to the community, along with an explanation to both the community and myself regarding the steps the airline will take in order to prevent this incident from recurring.

I would appreciate your prompt response to this letter. I look forward to learning what steps will be taken to meet the reasonable expectations of all communities surrounding SFO.

All the best,

Jackie Speier

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Enclosure: Illustration of flight path of Flight 2837 on July 29, 2014
cc: Brisbane City Council

Center of Town

Figure 1 – Kalitta Air's Flight 2837 on 7-29-2014

