Press Release: March 4, 2018

Save Our Skies VT is making public the dire health impacts—both physical and cognitive—to the children in our area from the noise of the F-35. They will hold a press conference at 11:00 AM on Monday, March 5, 2018 outside of Burlington City Hall (Church St side). Health care professionals, teachers, parents, Colonel Rosanne Greco, and Ben Cohen will be present to speak based on their expertise and personal experiences.

For further information, contact Colonel Rosanne Greco, USAF (ret) at 301-919-9313

Documentation and quotes supporting the physical and cognitive impacts on children follow.

<u>World Health Organization Report: Burden of Disease from Environmental Noise (2011)</u>

- "...aircraft noise, because of its intensity, the location of the source, and its variability and unpredictability, is likely to have a greater effect on children's reading than road traffic noise, which might be of a more constant intensity. Thus, it is conceivable that aircraft noise is more damaging than road traffic noise for children's cognition."

- "Exposure during critical periods of learning at school could potentially impair development and have a lifelong effect on educational attainment."

- "...cognitive impairment is assumed to show itself during the noise exposure as well as some time after the exposure has stopped."

- "There is overwhelming evidence that exposure to environmental noise has adverse effects on the health of the population."

- "There is sufficient evidence from large-scale epidemiological studies linking the population's exposure to environmental noise with adverse health effects. Therefore, environmental noise should be considered not only as a cause of nuisance but also a concern for public health and environmental health."

- "Reliable evidence indicates the adverse effects of chronic noise exposure on children's cognition."

The Environmental Protection Agency

- "EPA is particularly concerned over noise impacts to children per Executive Order 13045: Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks. E.O. 13045 recognizes children may suffer disproportionally from environmental health risks and safety risks. Because their smaller ear canals magnify the sounds entering the ear canals, children's hearing may be particularly sensitive. For example, a 20-decibel difference can exist between adult and infant ears."

—United States Environmental Protection Agency letter commenting on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the F35 Beddown at Eglin AFB, Florida (November 2010)

Executive Order 13045

- "A growing body of scientific knowledge demonstrates that children may suffer disproportionately from environmental health risks and safety risks. These risks arise because: children's neurological, immunological, digestive, and other bodily systems are still developing; children eat more food, drink more fluids, and breathe more air in proportion to their body weight than adults; children's size and weight may diminish their protection from standard safety features; and children's behavior patterns may make them more susceptible to accident because they are less able to protect themselves. "

—Executive Order 13045: Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks (April 2003)

Revised Draft United States F-35A Operational Basing Environmental Impact Statement

(May 2013). Volume II, Section C2.5.4 pages 28-30, "Noise Effects on Children"

- "The research reviewed does suggest that environments with sustained high background noise can have variable effects, including noise effects on learning and cognitive abilities, and reports of various noise-related physiological changes. ...studies suggest that loud and frequent background noise can affect the learning patterns of young children."

- "...evidence suggests that chronic exposure to high aircraft noise levels can impair learning."

- "Finally, although it is recognized that there are many factors that could contribute to learning deficits in school-aged children, there is increasing awareness that chronic exposure to high aircraft noise levels may impair learning."