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Small UAV Coalition Commends Committee for Providing Recommendations for FAA to Develop Framework for BVLOS Drone Operations

Urges FAA to expedite development of Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

WASHINGTON, DC – March 4, 2022 – The Small UAV Coalition congratulates the FAA's Beyond Visual Line of Sight Aviation Rulemaking Committee (BVLOS ARC) for today submitting its final report and recommendations to the FAA Administrator. The BVLOS ARC report is a necessary first step in a rulemaking process that will enable routine drone operations beyond the visual line of sight of the remote pilot. This rulemaking is the key to unlocking the tremendous potential for and benefits of drone operations, including delivery and inspection, as well as assistance to search and rescue, firefighting, and other emergency needs. A BVLOS rule will obviate petitions for waiver or exemption that frequently take months to process, imposing burdens both on the drone industry and limited FAA resources. The Coalition urges the FAA to expeditiously review the report and prioritize drafting a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and any other regulatory updates that may be required to implement the ARC's recommendations.

The Coalition praises the work and dedication of BVLOS ARC members, who comprise a diverse set of stakeholders, and who ensured that ARC report and recommendations would reflect a variety of perspectives and experience. The ARC is also to be commended for completing its work promptly, despite the challenges of deliberating in a virtual setting.

The Coalition looks forward to offering further comment on the substance of the BVLOS ARC report once the FAA makes it available to the public.

For more information on the Small UAV Coalition, please visit www.smalluavcoalition.org, contact press@smalluavcoalition.org, or follow @smallUAVs on Twitter.

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