

Spaceport closer to breaking ground

June 21 2007

The New Mexico Spaceport Authority says the Spaceport America project could break ground next April.

It is expected to be the first-ever purpose-built commercial spaceport, the Las Cruces (N.M.) Sun-News said Wednesday.

Officials say discussions are continuing with anchor tenant Virgin Galactic, a British firm planning to send paying customers into space.

Mike Holston, the spaceport's project coordinator, said the \$198 million facility could open in southern Sierra County in late 2009 or early 2010, the newspaper said.

A final draft of an Environmental Impact Statement will be submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration in June or July, Holston said.

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