

Mrs. Jill Goodwin
817 Portland Street
East Rochester, NH03868



DCN 3101
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06152005

James V. Hansen
BRAC Commission
521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington VA 22202

June 9, 2005

Dear Mr. Hansen:

I am writing to you to support Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. My husband has worked at the Shipyard for 24 years. I am asking you to consider keeping Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard open. I understand the importance of military restructuring but as one who will be greatly affected by a closure I would like to submit my side.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is the oldest shipyard in America. It was opened 29 years after the American Revolution. That in itself shows why it needs to be preserved. It is an historical monument. Like the first employees many can trace a relative back to a war who has worked there. My husband's grandfather, World War II, my father in law Korean War. Many of the employees are Vietnam Vets. They are in their 50-60's. They are highly skilled individuals in their trades. They work hard in the extreme weather. The sub zero temperatures of 50 below zero to 100 degree high humidity working outside hours at a time. That is dedication. The Department of the Navy gave Portsmouth Naval Shipyard the highest honor. The Meritorious Unit Commendation less than 24 hours before the BRAC released the list for closure. Can you imagine how that felt? I can. I saw it in my husband's eyes. Where will these individuals work? Who will hire them? They are perfectionist in their trades. Their skills would not even be an asset to Wal Mart.

I am very concerned about the fact the east coast will be unprotected. We need military presence. The Shipyard is a repair and refueling facility but it is doing the job keeping the nation safe. The terrorist who skyjacked the planes that destroyed the World Trade Center and aimed for the Pentagon came in through Portland, Maine. It is very sad that we are not thought of enough to have a military presence but come election time they flock to New Hampshire for the first in the nation primary. What else do we have? Lobster? Very little industrial in Maine and New Hampshire.

Health care is another concern. I work in an Emergency Department. I see very tragic results of no insurance. Diabetics who can not afford insulin, testing material or their diet. Heart patients who skip medication or do not take them at all. Yes, quite a few arrive dead. Who will be able afford childhood immunizations. My neighbor owns a business that would go under, Many businesses will go under. Little people who own diners, hair salons, cafes, office supply, etc. Please go on the internet and see what our temperatures are like during the winter. Our house, 2000 square feet and we paid \$1,600. to heat it. last year. What about those who can not afford it? Forget about the government programs. At work I hear they have been declined because funds ran out. Have you seen a 80 year old woman with severe frostbite that ended up in bilateral below the knee amputations? I have.

Please consider keeping Portsmouth Naval Shipyard open for the excellent work they do. For cutting cost. Turning back millions to the Naval Department. Doing projects hundreds of thousands of man hours less than other bases. But most of all think about those thousands whose lives you will be altering. Look at the figures the Seacoast Shipyard Association is giving to help you make a decision They are the true figures. New Hampshire and Maine 's future and lives depend on you.

Jill Goodwin

Mrs. Jill Goodwin
817 Portland Street
East Rochester, NH03868



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Lloyd Newton
BRAC Commission
521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington VA 22202

June 9, 2005

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Please consider keeping Portsmouth Naval Shipyard open for the excellent work they do. For cutting cost. Turning back millions to the Naval Department. But most of all think about those thousands who greeted you wearing the yellow t shirts. Those are the faces of the men, women and children whose future you will be saving.

Jill Goodwin