

DINA TITUS

SENATOR
Clark No. 7

MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

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Legislative Affairs and Operations



State of Nevada Senate

Seventy-first Session

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June 17, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
Chairman, Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Subject: HAWTHORNE ARMY DEPOT



07052005

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I respectfully request your strongest consideration to visit and then reconsider the recommendation to close Hawthorne Army Depot in Mineral County, Nevada. There are significant economic impacts to the community that, due to its remote location, were methodologically overlooked in the Region of Influence (ROI) and Economic Area Employment analytical processes. This oversight is simple, yet impacts significantly.

The community and base at Hawthorne, Nevada are compared under the Reno-Sparks Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) which significantly skews the impact – to nil – of the actual 14 percent job loss to the community. In reality, Hawthorne is located 136 driving miles from the center of Reno-Sparks, and 72 driving miles from the nearest *Micropolitan Area* of Fallon, Nevada. Using Hawthorne's Mineral County as a surrogate Micropolitan Statistical Area (similar to such locales/counties as Susanville and Fallon, both over 10,000 employees and within the Reno-Sparks MSA) the 2002 Bureau of Economic Analysis non-farm employment rate of 2,299 people yields the 14 percent economic impact of losing 325 jobs at Hawthorne. Supporting documentation is attached. The use of Mineral County data for a surrogate ROI has precedent in the methodology, e.g., for King George County, Virginia. I have studied the BRAC Economic Impact Joint Process Action Team Six Report and believe this impact was seriously understated and misleading due to Hawthorne's remote location.

Similar significant impacts warrant visits to other sites under consideration for closure. I strongly commend that, in light of the more accurate context, you visit Hawthorne Army Depot at your earliest opportunity. Please feel free to contact me at any time on this important issue.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dina Titus".

Dina Titus
State Senate Minority Leader

Attachments:

- 1. Bureau of Economic Analysis MSA Map**
- 2. Mineral County Data**
- 3. Lassen and Churchill Counties (Susanville and Fallon Micropolitan Statistical Areas) Data**
- 4. Map of Nevada with driving distances**

cc w/o att:

President George W. Bush

The Honorable Kenny C. Guinn, Governor of Nevada

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Harry Reid, United States Senate

The Honorable John Ensign, United States Senate

The Honorable Jim Gibbons, Representative in Congress

The Honorable Shelley Berkely, Representative in Congress

The Honorable Jon C. Porter, Representative in Congress

The Honorable James H. Bilbray, Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission

Mr. Richard Bryant, Chairman, Mineral County Commission

Ms. Shelley Hartmann, Executive Director, Mineral County Economic Development Authority

JOHN T. DUGENE

Dear Mr. Milroy,

Senator Titus asked to have their letter of support for
Hainbone conveyed to you as well. I am seeing as
her military and homeland security liaison, and am
involved with his issue. I will forward to
helping in any way on this important issue for
I have and Nevada.

Very Respectfully,
John Dugene