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# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**SHEILA JAMES KUEHL**  
TWENTY-THIRD SENATE DISTRICT

CHAIR  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND WATER COMMITTEE



**BRAC Commission**

**JUL 13 2005**

**Received**

**COMMITTEES:**  
BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
GOVERNMENT MODERNIZATION,  
EFFICIENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY  
HEALTH  
JUDICIARY  
LABOR & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
**SUBCOMMITTEES:**  
CHAIR, BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW,  
SUBCOMMITTEE 2 ON RESOURCES,  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AND ENERGY  
HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEES ON  
AGING & LONG TERM CARE  
STEM CELL RESEARCH OVERSIGHT  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DELTA  
RESOURCES  
**SELECT COMMITTEES:**  
CHAIR, HEALTH INSURANCE CRISIS  
IN CALIFORNIA  
CHAIR, SCHOOL SAFETY  
CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL  
SYSTEM  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
& MENTAL HEALTH  
PERCHLORATE CONTAMINATION  
**JOINT COMMITTEE:**  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS

July 13, 2005

Anthony Principi, Chairman  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am proud to represent the 23<sup>rd</sup> State Senate District, which includes Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) and many of the base's military and civilian employees. I would like to take this opportunity to request that you reject the Department of Defense's (DOD) recommendations to move weapons, range, and electronic warfare functions from NBVC to China Lake.

NBVC uniquely combines a military-controlled airfield complex, a military-controlled deepwater seaport, military-controlled San Nicholas Island, and the largest instrumented sea test range in the world. While the DOD has wisely recognized the vital importance of NBVC, it does not make logistical or economic sense to relocate range and support operations to a location 150 miles away. Relocating personnel from their primary operating area to China Lake will increase response time to range tasking, reduce on-range time, increase operating costs, and reduce safety.

In addition, the DOD assumes that a large portion of NBVC's civil service and contractor employees would be willing to move to Ridgecrest or China Lake. That assumption is highly questionable. The likely loss of expertise and intellectual capital from employees unwilling to relocate would take the Navy years to reconstitute.

I hope that you will recognize the overwhelming benefits to allowing weapons, range, and electronic warfare functions to remain at NBVC. Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheila Kuehl".

**Sheila James Kuehl**  
California State Senate  
23<sup>rd</sup> District