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JONATHAN WEINZAPFEL

BRAC Commission

July 29, 2005

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Received

Admiral (Ret.) Harold Gehman
Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Admiral Gehman:

Thank you for taking the time to hear the delegation from Indiana during the recent BRAC Hearing in St. Louis. It is my hope, that the testimony helped you better understand the importance of NSWC Crane and CAAA in the global war on terrorism. I understand your job is a difficult one and appreciate your efforts to ensure that our Military operations remain effective, efficient and affordable.

Since the proposed closure and realignment list was published, I have been following the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process closely and have become increasingly concerned that the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) has not properly followed the law in developing recommendations. According to data made available by the DOD, moving the 152 currently employed workers at the ALQ-99 depot from MSWC Crane to NAS Whidbey Island will cost \$150 million. In correlation, information published by the Federation of American Scientists indicates that the platform for ALQ-99, the EA-6B Prowler, will begin to be retired from service in the year 2010. An efficiency gap, not in accordance with the BRAC process, seems to appear with the spending of nearly one million dollars per person transferred to a system that will soon be removed from service.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align the ALQ-99 work from NSWC Crane, by properly taking into consideration the costs involved in this re-alignment, and the relatively short remaining service life of the equipment involved.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Weinzapfel
Mayor