



DCN: 6406

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
JONATHAN WEINZAPFEL

BRAC Commission

AUG 01 2005

Received

July 29, 2005

The Honorable Samuel Knox Skinner  
Commissioner  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

Thank you for your recent visit to NSWC Crane and CAAA. I understand your job is a difficult one and appreciate your efforts to ensure that our Military operations remain effective, efficient and affordable. It is my hope that your recent visit to southern Indiana helped you to realize that NSWC Crane and CAAA are important to our nation's defense and the global war on terrorism.

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. The DoD is required to take into account the return on investment resulting from its closure and realignment recommendations. Crane has become a one-stop shop for specialized weapons for our Special Forces Warfighters. Crane did this by being responsive, innovative, technically superior and affordable for these outstanding soldiers. As a result of meeting customer demands at an affordable price, a loyal customer base has developed. The proposal to realign work to China Lake and Picattinny will undoubtedly reduce the support given to the Special Forces. The division between locations will increase costs, reduce efficiency and create an irreparable loss in intellectual capital.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to realign work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Weinzapfel

Mayor