



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010



AUG 9 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

Thank you for your invitations for witnesses to appear before the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission at its August 11th hearings to discuss environmental and reuse considerations, Homeland Defense, and recommendations impacting the Air National Guard.

The Department is pleased to inform you that Mr. Philip W. Grone, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Installations and Environment, and Mr. Patrick J. O'Brien, Director, Office of Economic Adjustment, will testify on environmental and reuse issues. I understand you have scheduled additional witnesses from the private sector to testify separately on this topic.

The Department's anticipated witnesses for Homeland Defense are Mr. Peter Verga, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense, and Admiral Timothy Keating, Commander, U.S. Northern Command. The Department's anticipated witnesses for the second panel regarding recommendations impacting the Air Guard will include the Honorable Michael Dominguez, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum, Chief National Guard Bureau, and Major General Gary Heckman, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force for Plans and Programs. I understand that representatives from the Adjutants General Association of the United States will provide testimony separately on these issues.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew England" with "ACTING" written below it.