


Business & Industry Association of New Hampshire

To promote and preserve the economic well-being of New Hampshire.

BRAC Commission

July 27, 2005

JUL 29 2005

Phillip Coyle
 Base Realignment and Closure Commission
 2521 South Clark St., Suite 600
 Arlington, VA 22202

Received

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

The Business & Industry Association is New Hampshire's statewide chamber of commerce and leading business advocacy group. As such we are writing to request that you remove the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard from the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's final base closure list.

As a business organization, we believe the business case for closing the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has not been made. As recognized by the Secretary of the Navy, the facility's documented record of cost, schedule, quality, and safety performance are exemplary:

- Portsmouth Naval Shipyard personnel established new performance levels for submarine maintenance, modernization, and overhaul work by producing business results that are the benchmark among public and private sector nuclear shipyards.
- The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard completed six major submarine availabilities early.
- The Shipyard has consistently exceeded net operating result financial goals.
- The Shipyard reduced injuries by more than 50 percent and exceeded the Secretary of Defense's Fiscal Year 2006 stretch goal for lost workday compensation rates two years early.
- The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard embraced the "One-Shipyard Initiative" and the application of LEAN industrial practices – concepts that are cutting edge, even among private sector firms.

Due to its superb performance and productivity, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard saves tens of millions of dollars for the taxpayers on each job it undertakes. It makes no sense to close a facility with this track record. We hope that you will agree.

Respectfully,

George Gantz
 BIA Board Chair
 Sr. Vice President
 Unital Corp.

Michael Donahue
 BIA Executive Committee Chair
 Principal Engineer
 Aries Engineering

Jim Roche
 President & CEO
 Business & Industry Association
 of New Hampshire

cc: Senator Judd Gregg Senator John Sununu
 Congressman Charles Bass Congressman Jeb Bradley
 Governor John Lynch


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James H. Bilbray
 Base Realignment and Closure Commission
 2521 South Clark St., Suite 600
 Arlington, VA 22202

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