



2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission

Willow Phillips
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Hawthorne, Nevada 89415

06152005

Dear Sir;

I am 62 years old, a retired school teacher, US Army vet, I have not or has any of my family ever worked at the base.....I am worried about two things, the effect on the military and this town.

DoD has given you some figures that have lots of discrepancies on what actually happens at the base. Our base is used as a training area for the Marines/Navy for high altitude training before being deployed. Our mountains steep, rocky and remote just like the areas they will be going to. Where are you going to get this type of terrain where they can use live fire? Then there is the Navy Seals, who come to practice their skills and due to our remoteness can practice with explosives. There are other activities that the military use this base for that has recently been developed. Please come to view the new activities, and see how we are helping the military to reach their goals of the best training army in the world..

Our reprocessing plant is the most up to date and if the base is closed the military will have to build another plant at what cost 8 million. What about the environmental aspect, cleaning up the old World War I bombs that were buried in the sand and now are leaking, they washed out bombs every where and so the ground has lots of TNT in it, 840 million. This is saving money?

What about our town, DoD claims we are a bedroom community to Reno/Sparks, we are if 133 miles is close...it takes 3 hours to drive there. If the base closes we will lose 50% of the population of the town and that means our hospital, and Safeway store. The closest town is 64 miles one way. Our seniors would have to drive that just to get their medical needs. A word about the people I was teaching high school and coaching during Desert Storm, since many of the parents worked 24/7 many of them did not get to see their children play in their senior year, I did not hear a bad word from parent or student. They all knew why mom and dad were not present. You should have seen all the yellow ribbons on the trees in our park one each for each son or daughter in the military...I wish you would come,,rather naïve of me.....but this is about our military and

our town. I hope you will think of out unique terrain and what we can do for the military before you kill our town. If you think we can get some other industry to come to the middle of the desert , to a town with no hospital or large store, no trains, no bus service.....we have tried.....

Sincerely,



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