

Mrs. Jill Goodwin  
817 Portland Street  
East Rochester, NH03868



James T. Hill  
BRAC Commission  
521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington VA 22202

June 9, 2005

Dear Mr. Hill:

I am writing to you to support Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. My husband has worked at the Shipyard for 24 years. I am asking you to consider keeping Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard open. I understand the importance of military restructuring but as one who will be greatly affected by a closure I would like to submit my side.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is the oldest shipyard in America. It was opened 29 years after the American Revolution. That in itself shows why it needs to be preserved. It is an historical monument. Like the first employees many can trace a relative back to a war who has worked there. My husband's grandfather, World War II, my father in law Korean War. Many of the employees are Vietnam Vets. They are in their 50-60's. They are highly skilled individuals in their trades. They work hard in the extreme weather. The sub zero temperatures of 50 below zero to 100 degree high humidity working outside hours at a time. That is dedication. The Department of the Navy gave Portsmouth Naval Shipyard the highest honor. The Meritorious Unit Commendation less than 24 hours before the BRAC released the list for closure. Can you imagine how that felt? I can. I saw it in my husband's eyes. Where will these individuals work? Who will hire them? They are perfectionist in their trades. Their skills would not even be an asset to Wal Mart.

I am very concerned about the fact the east coast will be unprotected. We need military presence. The Shipyard is a repair and refueling facility but it is doing the job keeping the nation safe. The terrorist who skyjacked the planes that destroyed the World Trade Center and aimed for the Pentagon came in through Portland, Maine. It is very sad that we are not thought of enough to have a military presence but come election time they flock to New Hampshire for the first in the nation primary. What else do we have? Lobster? Very little industrial in Maine and New Hampshire.

Health care is another concern. I work in an Emergency Department. I see very tragic results of no insurance. Diabetics who can not afford insulin, testing material or their diet. Heart patients who skip medication or do not take them at all. Yes, quite a few arrive dead. Who will be able afford childhood immunizations. My neighbor owns a business that would go under, Many businesses will go under. Little people who own diners, hair salons, cafes, office supply, etc. Please go on the internet and see what our temperatures are like during the winter. Our house, 2000 square feet and we paid \$1,600. to heat it. last year. What about those who can not afford it? Forget about the government programs. At work I hear they have been declined because funds ran out. Have you seen a 80 year old woman with severe frostbite that ended up in bilateral below the knee amputations? I have.

Please consider keeping Portsmouth Naval Shipyard open for the excellent work they do. For cutting cost. Turning back millions to the Naval Department. Doing projects hundreds of thousands of man hours less than other bases. But most of all think about those thousands whose lives you will be altering. Look at the figures the Seacoast Shipyard Association is giving to help you make a decision They are the true figures. New Hampshire and Maine 's future depends on you.

*Jill Goodwin*

Mrs. Jill Goodwin  
817 Portland Street  
East Rochester, NH 03868



Anthony Principi - Commission Chairman  
BRAC Commission  
521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

June 9, 2005

Dear Mr. Principi:

I am writing show my support for the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. My husband has worked there for the past 24 years. I would ask you to consider our side. The people of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts will be affected greatly if the shipyard closes. I understand the importance of restructuring the military. But not at the expense of national security and the destruction of lives of people who have spent their entire career in sub zero temperatures to blazing heat and humidity to get a submarine back out to sea to protect the nation. The upper most in the minds of my husband and his co workers is to do the job quickly, safely and to make sure when that submarine goes into the open ocean that the lives of men and women will be safe. The men and women push themselves to the limit to assure the projects come in under budget, ahead of schedule and turning millions of dollars back the Department of the Navy. What other military institution does that? You saw a prime example of that when they got the submarine out during your visit June 3, 2005. This was not for show. This was Portsmouth doing what they do.

On the compassionate side. The people who will be affected. Many of the personnel are men in their 50's, plus. Vietnam Vets. They do not earn a lot of money. They are highly skilled in their trade. Where will they go to work? Who will hire them? They do not have the skills that would be an asset to work at Wal-Mart. We pay \$1,600. a year just for heating oil to keep our house warm. We drive older cars. And yes, I work. My job is in an Emergency Department at a hospital. No, I do not earn a lot of money. One of my concerns is the health care. I see many people who do not have health insurance. They are diabetics, high blood pressure, many have small complaints that turn into huge life threatening problems. One individual was a 50 year old man with a nagging cough that was diagnosed as lung cancer. He did not have any health insurance.

When the BRAC released the closure list the Shipyard was devastated. One day before they received the Navy's highest honor. The Meritorious Unit Commendation. The people of the Shipyard were ecstatic. The next day they were told they were being closed? How that hurt. My biggest concern is it would leave the east coast wide open to attack should someone decide. Granted, what would they get? New Hampshire and Maine are rural area with very little industry. Our big claim to fame is lobster and we are the first in the nation for the primary election. The terrorist who skyjacked the planes that destroyed the World Trade Center and nearly wiped out the Pentagon entered the country through Portland, Maine. It disturbs me that we are not thought of important enough to have military presence.

Please ask to see the data that was not released to you. The figures given to you by the Seacoast Shipyard Association is correct. If the Shipyard closes people will not be able to live. When you make your vote for closure keep in mind the 8,000 people who welcomed you wearing the yellow t shirts. Those are the men, women and children whose livelihood you hold in your hand.

*Jill Goodwin*

Mrs. Jill Goodwin  
817 Portland Street  
East Rochester, NH03868

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Philip Coyle  
BRAC Commission  
521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington VA 22202

June 9, 2005

Dear Mr. Coyle:

I am writing to you in support of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. My husband has worked at the Shipyard for 24 years. I am asking you to consider keeping Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard open. I understand the importance of military restructuring but as one who will be greatly affected by a closure I would like to submit my side.

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