



June 30, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

On behalf of the 495/MetroWest Corridor Partnership, we would like to express our support for the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) recommendations made by the U.S. Department of Defense to preserve the Soldier Systems Center - Natick and expand Hanscom Air Force Base in Massachusetts.

The Partnership is a non-profit advocacy organization serving the Massachusetts 495/MetroWest region's thirty-two towns, over half a million residents, and an employment base of \$13.5 Billion by addressing regional needs through public / private collaboration, and by enhancing the economic vitality and quality of life while sustaining natural resources. Governed by regional leaders from municipal government, regional employers, state legislative delegation, and non-profit organizations, the Partnership is very concerned about regional constraints and limitations, and has been conducting initiatives on housing, transportation, workforce, and water issues. As part of these activities, the Partnership has been an enthusiastic participant in the Massachusetts Defense Technology Initiative, a collaborative effort to advocate on behalf of Massachusetts defense facilities that is co-chaired by U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy and Governor Mitt Romney.

For decades, Hanscom and Natick have made significant contributions to the technological advancement that drives our nation's warfighting capabilities. The command and control technologies developed at Hanscom and the soldier systems advancements from Natick help give the US military a technological advantage over every other military force in the world.

Soldier Systems Center-Natick has a long history of accomplishments in serving all branches of the military over the last fifty years and was ranked number one in military value for both Human Systems Research and Development & Acquisition by the Pentagon's Technical Joint Cross Service Group (TJCSG). Both Natick and Hanscom ranked in the top ten of several other categories of TJCSG ratings.

The successful track record of these bases can be attributed in large part to their proximity to the nation's top defense technology cluster that stretches from Southeastern Massachusetts into Southern New Hampshire. This region possesses the critical mass of skilled workforce, experienced institutional and academic partners and research and development base to enable these facilities to thrive now and into the future. As this BRAC process has proven, the Pentagon has a willing partner in Massachusetts to help create the future vision for these facilities.

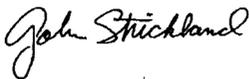
495/METROWEST CORRIDOR PARTNERSHIP, INC.

200 FRIBERG PARKWAY, SUITE 1003, WESTBOROUGH, MA 01581
PHONE: 774-760-0495 FAX: 774-760-0017

By recommending the addition of more than 1100 new direct jobs to Hanscom and retaining the core technology mission at Natick, the Department of Defense has made a tremendous commitment to Massachusetts and its higher education institutions, technological capabilities, and culture of innovation. We recognize that commitment and will do everything within our capabilities to enhance the collaboration between academic/high tech/medical sectors and these military facilities so that they can continue their critical work in defense of our nation and grow for the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our perspective on the importance of preserving the Soldier Systems Center - Natick and expanding Hanscom Air Force Base. If you or the BRAC staff have any questions regarding these facilities or the depth of their support, please do not hesitate to contact Paul Matthews at paul@arc-of-innovation.org and (774)760-0495.

Sincerely,



John Strickland
Private Sector Co-Chair
Bose Corporation



Donald Wheeler
Public Sector Co-Chair
Town of Boxborough



Paul Matthews
Executive Director

cc: MetroWest Chamber of Commerce - Natick SSC Business Alliance.
Massachusetts Defense Technology Initiative.



June 30, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Polk Building, Suite 600
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

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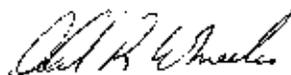
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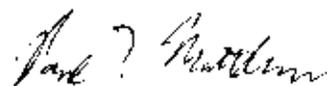
Sincerely,



John Strickland
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Bose Corporation



Donald Wheeler
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Executive Director

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The Honorable Philip Coyle
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
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Dear Commissioner Coyle:

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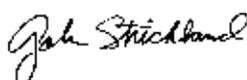
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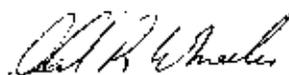
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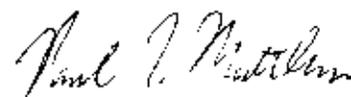
Sincerely,



John Strickland
Private Sector Co-Chair
Bose Corporation



Donald Wheeler
Public Sector Co-Chair
Town of Boxborough



Paul Matthews
Executive Director

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June 30, 2005

Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr.
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
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Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Admiral Gehman:

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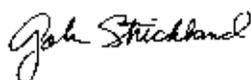
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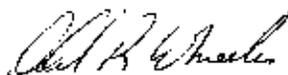
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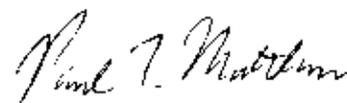
Sincerely,



John Strickland
Private Sector Co-Chair
Bose Corporation



Donald Wheeler
Public Sector Co-Chair
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Paul Matthews
Executive Director

cc: MetroWest Chamber of Commerce - Natick SSC Business Alliance.
Massachusetts Defense Technology Initiative.



June 30, 2005

The Honorable James V. Hansen
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Polk Building, Suite 600
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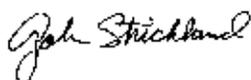
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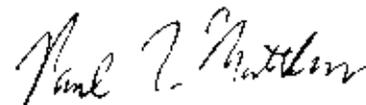
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Bose Corporation



Donald Wheeler
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Executive Director

cc: MetroWest Chamber of Commerce - Natick SSC Business Alliance.
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June 30, 2005

General James T. Hill
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Polk Building, Suite 600
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Arlington, VA 22202

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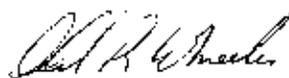
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General Lloyd W. Newton
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Polk Building, Suite 600
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

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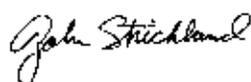
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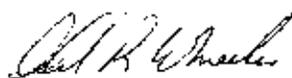
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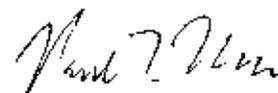
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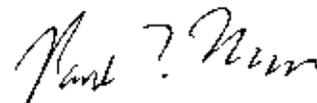
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General Sue E. Turner
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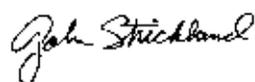
Soldier Systems Center-Natick has a long history of accomplishments in serving all branches of the military over the last fifty years and was ranked number one in military value for both Human Systems Research and Development & Acquisition by the Pentagon's Technical Joint Cross Service Group (TJCSG). Both Natick and Hanscom ranked in the top ten of several other categories of TJCSG ratings.

The successful track record of these bases can be attributed in large part to their proximity to the nation's top defense technology cluster that stretches from Southeastern Massachusetts into Southern New Hampshire. This region possesses the critical mass of skilled workforce, experienced institutional and academic partners and research and development base to enable these facilities to thrive now and into the future. As this BRAC process has proven, the Pentagon has a willing partner in Massachusetts to help create the future vision for these facilities.

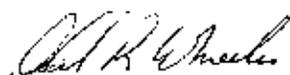
By recommending the addition of more than 1100 new direct jobs to Hanscom and retaining the core technology mission at Natick, the Department of Defense has made a tremendous commitment to Massachusetts and its higher education institutions, technological capabilities, and culture of innovation. We recognize that commitment and will do everything within our capabilities to enhance the collaboration between academic/high tech/medical sectors and these military facilities so that they can continue their critical work in defense of our nation and grow for the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our perspective on the importance of preserving the Soldier Systems Center - Natick and expanding Hanscom Air Force Base. If you or the BRAC staff have any questions regarding these facilities or the depth of their support, please do not hesitate to contact Paul Matthews at paul@arc-of-innovation.org and (774)760-0495.

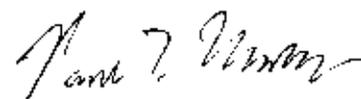
Sincerely,



John Strickland
Private Sector Co-Chair
Bose Corporation



Donald Wheeler
Public Sector Co-Chair
Town of Boxborough



Paul Matthews
Executive Director

cc: MetroWest Chamber of Commerce - Natick SSC Business Alliance.
Massachusetts Defense Technology Initiative.