

LOIS CAPPS  
23RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

1707 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0522  
(202) 225-3601

COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET



RECEIVED

06282005

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

- DISTRICT OFFICES:
- 1411 MARSH STREET, SUITE 205  
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401  
(805) 546-8348
  - 1216 STATE STREET, SUITE 403  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101  
(805) 730-1710
  - 141 SOUTH A STREET, SUITE 204  
OXNARD, CA 93030  
(805) 385-3440

# FAX TRANSMISSION

CONGRESSWOMAN LOIS CAPPS  
1707 LONGWORTH H.O.B.  
WASHINGTON, D C 20515  
(202) 225-3601  
FAX: (202) 225-5632

Date: 6-28-05

To: BRAC Commission

Fax #: 703-699-2735

From: Rep. Lois Capps

Re: Naval Base Ventura County

Pages: 3 (including this cover sheet)

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

LOIS CAPPS  
23RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

1707 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0522  
(202) 225-3601

COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
June 28, 2005

- DISTRICT OFFICES:
- 1411 MARSH STREET, SUITE 205  
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401  
(805) 546-8348
  - 1216 STATE STREET, SUITE 403  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101  
(805) 730-1710
  - 141 SOUTH A STREET, SUITE 204  
OXNARD, CA 93030  
(805) 385-3440

The Honorable Anthony Principi  
Commissioner  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202-3909

Dear Chairman Principi:

As members of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission prepare for the site visit to Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) located in Ventura County, California, I wanted to thank you for your steadfast work in making the tough decisions required in implementing the 2005 round.

As you know, the Pentagon has recommended realigning important missions away from NBVC that will result in the largest job loss in California – over 2,800 military and civilian positions. While I am relieved that NBVC was not recommended for complete closure, the impact of the BRAC recommendation is nevertheless quite significant to my constituents and to our nation. The community and I believe the recommendation was based on inaccurate information and failed to recognize the installation's important military value.

Your upcoming site visit will allow base personnel, as well as local business and community leaders, to inform the Commission on evaluation inaccuracies and reasons why the potential realignments should not occur. The base and community are well prepared and organized, having made essentially the same argument in 1995. The case then was convincing and persuasive to the Commission and I trust it will be so again.

Like you, I strongly support efforts to make our military stronger and more efficient. However, any changes made to our military installations should be focused on protecting local communities and strengthening our national defense capabilities. Relocating the vital functions performed by the personnel at NBVC will have serious disruptions to the lives of the military and civilian personnel on the base and their families. The base supports about 17,000 military, civilian and contractor jobs with an estimated impact of \$1.2 billion annually. In addition, the base generates 30,000 jobs in Ventura County, which translates to another \$750 million in economic activity.

The relocations will also have severe and lasting consequences to our nation's security. NBVC is an important element in our national security system, especially in the war against terrorism and protecting our homeland. The entire base, which includes Port Hueneme and Pt. Mugu, supports more than 70 military units and numerous missions, including support for

research and development, and test and evaluation of weapons systems, a deep-water port, an airfield, and missile test range. Many of the functions conducted at the base cannot be performed anywhere else.

As an example, the weapons division at NBVC operates the largest instrumented sea test range in the world, providing a testing and training facility for the Navy, Air Force, Missile Defense Agency, and allied nations. The region's geography enhances the value of the sea test range, permitting a large operating area with no traffic conflicts. The range is also linked with the inland ranges of California and the western United States in an irreplaceable relationship.

Again, thank you for all of the work you are doing. I know the Commission is busy and under tremendous time pressure. I admire your efforts, and look forward to working with you as the BRAC process progresses.

Sincerely,



LOIS CAPPS  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable James H. Bilbray  
The Honorable Philip Coyle  
Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr., (USN, Retired)  
The Honorable James V. Hansen  
General James T. Hill (USA, Retired)  
General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton (USAF, Retired)  
The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner  
Brigadier General Sue E. Turner (USAF, Retired)