



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
 5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
 Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
 Base Realignment and Closure Commission
 2521 South Clark Street
 Suite 100
 Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

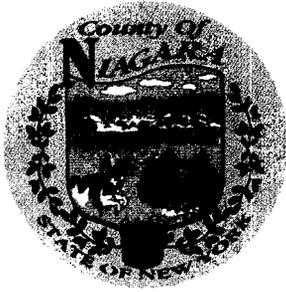
Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435

(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435

(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

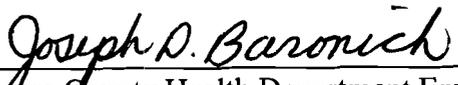
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

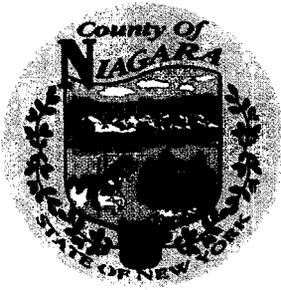
Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

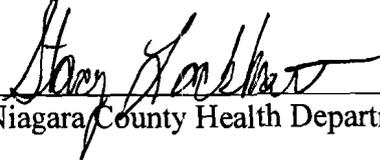
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

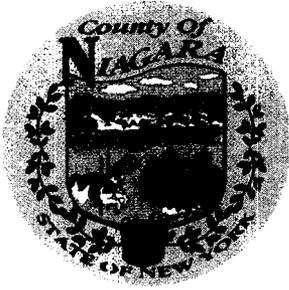
Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

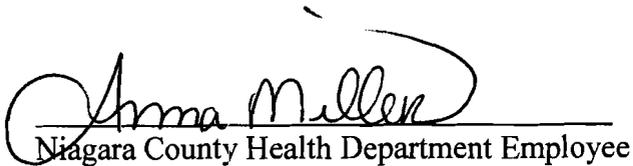
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Anna Miller
Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435

(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security.

Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

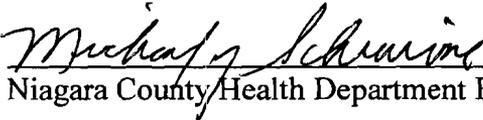
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

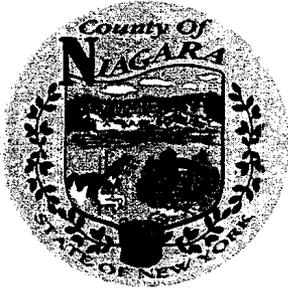
Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

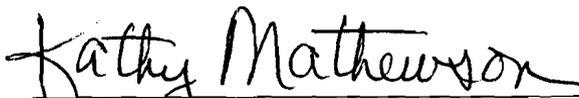
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director
(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

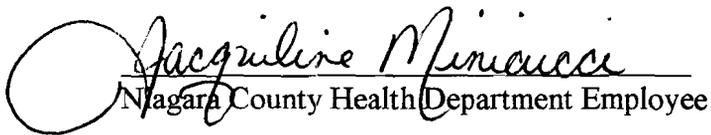
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

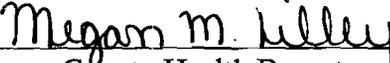
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

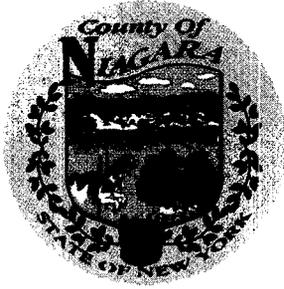
Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Linda A. Jesson
Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

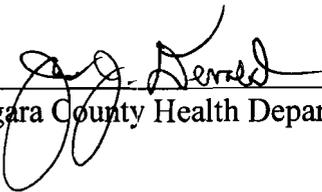
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

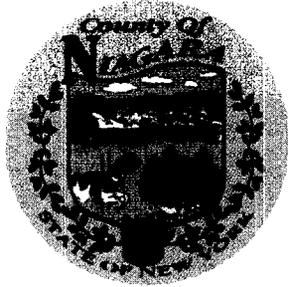
Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

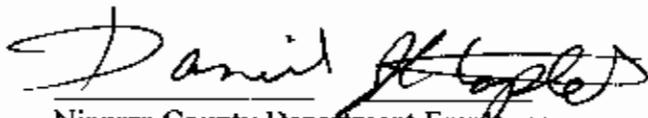
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

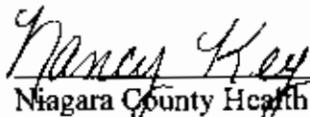
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KUINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

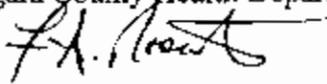
Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide-ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director

Niagara County Health Department Employee





NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

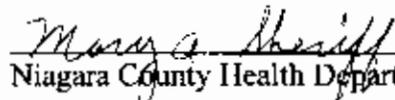
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

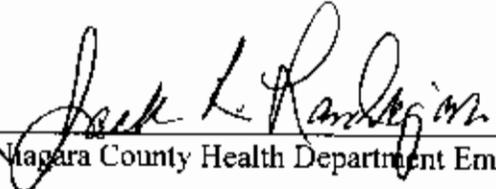
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide-ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

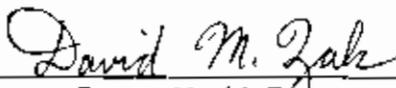
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide-ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KEENE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

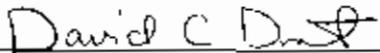
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435

(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

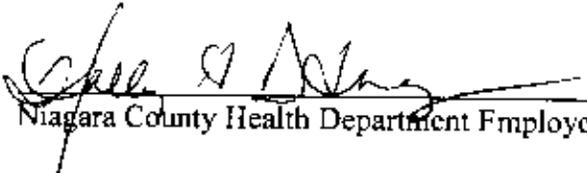
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security.

Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

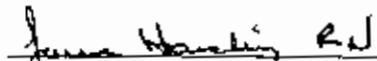
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8, National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KUINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director
(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8 National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

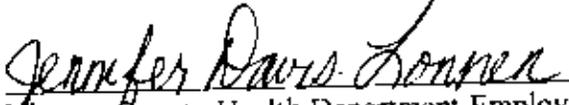
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M Ed., M P H.
Public Health Director



Jennifer Davis Louren
Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8 National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

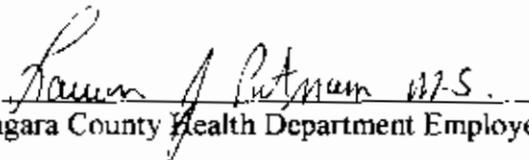
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8 National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

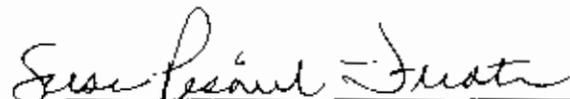
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D V M , President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N , M.Ed , M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HISPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

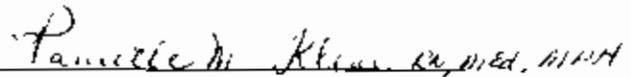
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,



Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health



Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director

Niagara County Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

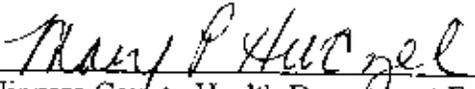
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894

NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483

Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

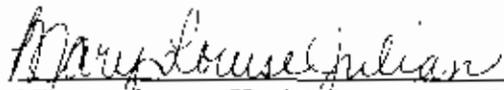
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Klinc, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners,

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

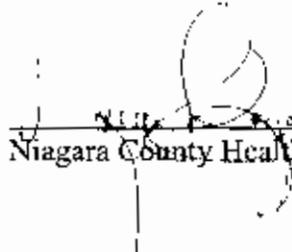
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

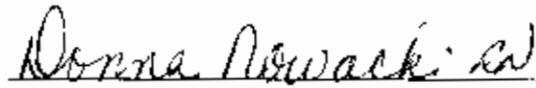
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide-ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Khne, R.N., M Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1956**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

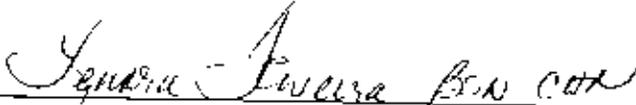
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide-ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Klinc, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Sandra Inverna, B.S.N., C.O.N.
Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

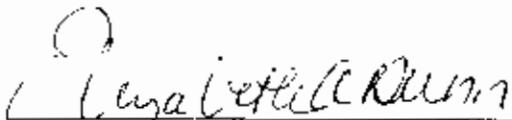
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners.

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M , President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide-ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President.
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Klme, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Elva Fillion
Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

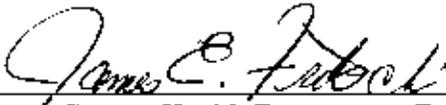
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President.
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

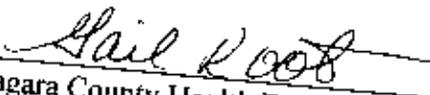
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PALLETE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KUINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director
(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

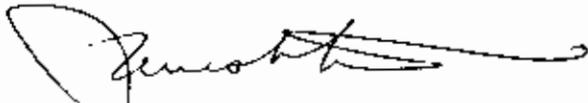
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KUINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435

(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulctte M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

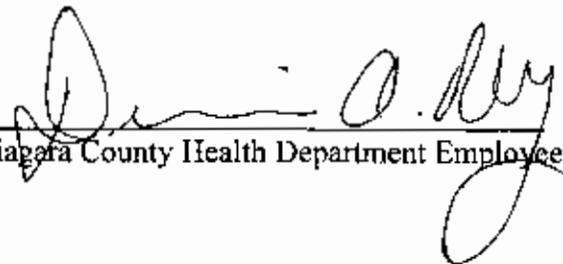
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

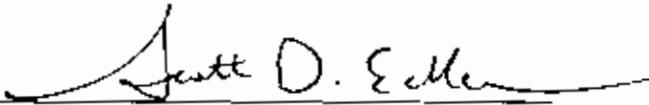
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Scott D. Ellen
Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

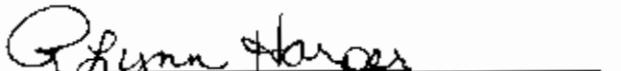
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

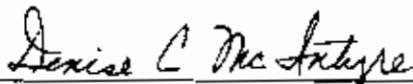
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

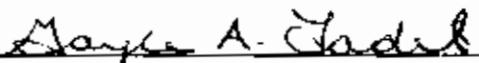
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAUIETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director
(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Jeffrey G. Beach
Niagara County Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director
(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

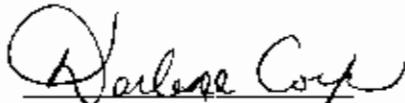
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners,

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

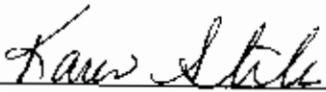
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide-ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

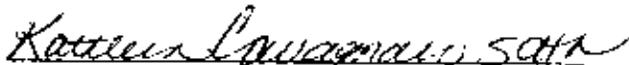
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide-ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President.
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners.

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8 National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed , M.P.H
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Tuckport, New York 14094-1894

PAULFETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8 National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities.

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

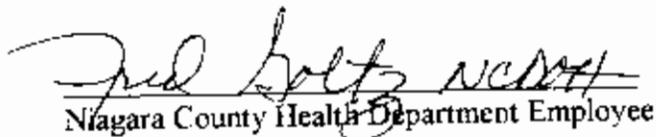
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

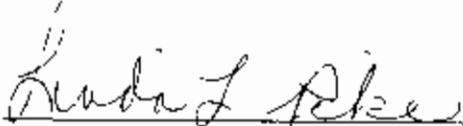
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President.
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Linda L. Phee
Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

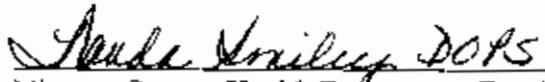
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M , President.
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

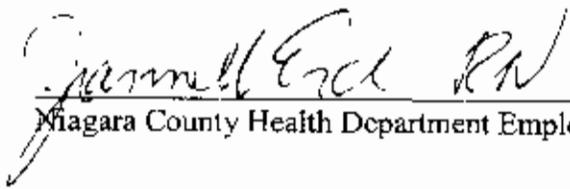
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President.
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director


Niagara County Health Department Employee



**NIAGARA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD, SUITE 100
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-1894**

**NURSING DIVISION
(716) 439-7470
Fax (716) 439-7483**

**Niagara Falls
(716) 278-1900
Fax (716) 278-1936**

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordinance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8: National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

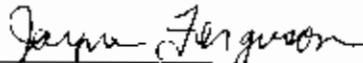
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PALLETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director
(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8, National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director
(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8 National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

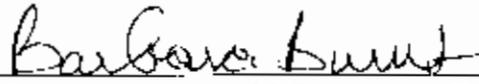
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director
(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8 National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

BRAC COMMISSION

Received

7 July 2005

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed, M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8 - National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DIIS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., MPH
Public Health Director

Jill P. Wenzel

Niagara County Health Department Employee



NIAGARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
5467 Upper Mountain Road, Suite 100
Lockport, New York 14094-1894

PAULETTE M. KLINE, R.N., M. Ed. M.P.H.
Public Health Director

(716) 439-7435
(716) 439-7440 Fax

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony Principi
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 100
Arlington, Virginia, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base is not in the best interest of either our Niagara region or of the nation. In the interest of preserving Homeland Security, we ask the US Department of Defense and the BRAC to reverse this decision.

Since President Bush issued Presidential Decision Directive 8, National Preparedness (HSPD-8) on December 17, 2003, we have accelerated our local efforts in Niagara County to assess our risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to prepare and respond to large-scale emergencies and threats to the health and security of our local and regional communities. The airbase has been an integral planning partner in our local and regional efforts as we have incorporated the DHS prescribed capabilities-based planning process to build up our critical capacity for homeland security. Airbase partner representatives sit on these committees and more: Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Health Emergency Alert and Response Team (HEART) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Moreover, the Niagara Falls Air Base and Guard partners are written into our local, municipal, county, regional, public health and cross-border emergency plans.

As you know, inter-agency coordination is absolutely essential to build response capacities and to mitigate large-scale emergencies. A recent gap analysis of our county demonstrates the need for continued partnership with the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base. The following illustrates how the air base contributes to strategic security and serves to augment readiness and critical response capacities:

- Aviation support for domestic and cross-border security incidents
- Secure land and air transport support for release and dissemination of federal pharmaceutical and medical assets
- Support for mass prophylaxis and vaccination
- Fire and HAZMAT support
- Emergency Medical and Public Health System support
- Technology and Communications infrastructure support
- Emergency Preparedness Training and exercises

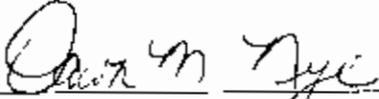
- Disaster Recovery
- Ordnance coordination support
- Resource coordination and support
- Civil support
- Environmental agent detection
- Environmental Health and support
- Support for maintaining continuity of government operations
- **Focal point for any federal response staging**

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air and Guard Base would have a wide- ranging deleterious effect on the homeland security and economic stability of Niagara County and the surrounding region. Therefore, we ask of you, in serious consideration of our citizenry, to reverse your decision.

Respectfully yours,

Steven Lewis, D.V.M., President,
Niagara County Board of Health

Paulette M. Kline, R.N., M.Ed., M.P.H.
Public Health Director



Niagara County Health Department Employee