

BRAC Commission

August 31, 2005

SEP 01 2005

Received

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

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Once again, thank you for all your valuable service. I know last week's proceedings of the Commission were long and sometimes challenging. You, and the rest of the Commission, are to be commended.

I would also like to thank you for your assistance in correcting the violation of BRAC statute and process made in amendment 186-3a, (Tech 19) relating to "energetics" and Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey. The technical correction you executed as the last order of business on Friday night, August 25, was necessary and correct.

For your further consideration, I am sending along draft language on this important issue. I would appreciate your assistance in incorporating this language into the final Commission report.

Once again, I thank you and your colleagues for your assistance and service. I look forward to working with you in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
Member of Congress

RPF: sw
Encl.

Suggested Report Language – Tech 19

The consolidation of energetics has been previously studied numerous times at the OSD level. DoD has consistently assigned the leadership role in this field to the Army and Picatinny Arsenal, which is DoD's largest user and procurer of armaments and munitions. Nothing in the decision to leave small subsets of energetics workload at other installations to support their particular missions should be construed to change the existing role of Picatinny Arsenal in energetics systems. In fact, the creation of the integrated full life cycle specialty site for Guns and Ammunition at Picatinny Arsenal may provide a basis for further DoD consolidation of energetics work at the installation.

Rep. Frelinghuysen
August 31, 2005