



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC

14 MAY 2004

Office of the Assistant Secretary

SAF/IEI
1665 Air Force Pentagon
Washington DC 20330-1665

The Honorable Duncan L. Hunter
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515-6035

Dear Mr. Chairman

Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 2811, this letter is to notify you that I have approved a six-phase repair of the power plant at Eareckson Air Station, AK at a total cost of \$50.4M. The Air Force is currently working to identify funds in the Operation and Maintenance appropriation for this project.

The existing plant was constructed in 1976 using four generators that were manufactured in the mid-60s, with two additional generators added in 1988. Each generator generates three megawatts (MW) with a total power output of 18 MW. If two generators fail, the maximum expected load of 13 MW required to support the Ground-based Midcourse Defense Program will not be obtained. The facility is severely deteriorated due to the extreme weather changes and the salt-laden environment on the island. Roof and building sidings are severely weathered and rusted. The controls for the heat exchanger are inoperative and cause the plant to overheat. This project will repair power plant deficiencies to included repairing generator controls, switchgear, relays, electrical systems, lighting, overhead cranes, roofs, and other structural problems.

We have chosen to accomplish this project under the authority of 10 U.S.C. § 2811. The work is classified as repair and the use of operation and maintenance funds provides the flexibility to plan the work with minimum disruption to operations while balancing our operation and maintenance and military construction programs.

A similar letter has been sent to the Ranking Minority Member of your Committee.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred W. Kuhn".

FRED W. KUHN
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force
(Installations)