DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC

20 AUG 2003

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 Congressional committee direction, this letter is to notify you that I have approved an $8M electrical distribution repair project at the McConnell AFB, KS. The Air Force is currently working to identify funds in the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) appropriation for this project.

This project will replace the existing Kansas Street overhead electrical distribution circuit with new, underground ductbank and associated wiring. The Kansas Street circuit is over forty years old and direct replacement parts are no longer manufactured. The existing overhead hardware has exceeded its anticipated useful life, and is experiencing increased maintenance costs and decreased reliability. No significant improvements have been made to this overhead system in the past twenty years.

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

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