



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC

28 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 10 U.S.C. § 2811, this letter is to notify you that I have approved a \$36.1M phased electrical distribution repair by replacement project at MacDill AFB, FL. The Air Force is currently working to identify funds in the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) appropriation for this project.

This project replaces the existing overhead electrical distribution with an underground electrical distribution system. The existing overhead high voltage equipment is over 45 years old and replacement parts are nearly impossible to locate. These overhead distribution lines are routinely hit by lightning. Additionally, placing these lines underground will preclude extensive repair costs in the event of a hurricane, a distinct possibility in this region.

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", written in a cursive style.

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