

## United States Senate

March 5, 2010

The Honorable Carl Levin  
Chairman  
Senate Armed Services Committee  
228 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John McCain  
Ranking Member  
Senate Armed Services Committee  
228 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Levin and Ranking Member McCain:

As the Committee begins its consideration of the FY2011 National Defense Authorization Act, I am writing to request support for the following projects as attached. This year the Committee will consider authorizing Atomic Defense Activities consistent with the President's commitment to ensure our nuclear weapons laboratories can maintain the stockpile into the foreseeable future as it negotiates its reduction. I support the President's budget for these activities but would like draw the distinction between maintaining the weapons systems themselves and maintaining the underlying science of the stockpile, which is essential to an enduring science and engineering capability at the laboratories. In this regard, I believe the current budget has focused on life extensions of the B-61 and W-78 systems but not the underlying science capability. For example, the administration's Fiscal Year 2011 budget for the Los Alamos Neutron Science Center has for the second year proposed eliminating necessary revitalization upgrades so that it can continue to provide high fidelity data on the atomic properties of weapons test data and materials. I do not support this action and ask this committee to authorize \$20 million to continue its upgrade path. This machine is unique within the weapons complex, capable of providing data on weapons materials that require high levels of safety in a secure environment and is the gateway to future science missions of the laboratory.

I am also concerned about the Operationally Responsive Space Program. The purpose of this program is to provide combatant commanders access to satellite data unique to their area of responsibility by rapidly building and launching small satellites - as compared to slower and larger national technical systems that take years to build and must be tasked based on competing requirements. The Department of Defense is not taking seriously this transformative program and in fact it appears that other nations are ahead of the Department's own efforts. I find this lack of commitment unacceptable to an area not only important to soldiers but the competitive health of our nation's satellite industry and ask to work with the committee to strengthen this program.

I thank the committee for considering my request; my point of contact is Dr. Jonathan S. Epstein, 224-5521.

Sincerely

Jeff Bingaman  
U.S. Senator

**Cannon AFB**

**Project Name:** 96-Person Dormitory, Phase I  
**Request:** \$8,800,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Air Force  
**Project Number:** CZQZ123001A  
**Service Component:** Air Force  
**Project Location:** Cannon Air Force Base, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct a three-story, four-plex style dormitory with 48 rooms and a common area. Existing dormitory capacity does not meet demands. A rapid increase of airmen is expected to continue as the 27<sup>th</sup> SOW continues its bed down and an increase in on-base housing is critical. This has been flagged by many members of the Air Force leadership as a priority.

**Project Name:** Family Support Center  
**Request:** \$4,050,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Air Force  
**Project Number:** CZQZ013004  
**Service Component:** Air Force  
**Project Location:** Cannon Air Force Base, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct a new family support center that provides essential financial and family counseling/education, relocation information, and employment/transition assistance to ensure airmen and their families are supported when entering the service, when relocating to and from installations, pre- and post-deployment support and assuming a smooth transition into civilian life when separating or retiring from the service.

**Project Name:** SOF C-130 Wash Rack Hangar  
**Request:** \$10,800,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Air Force  
**Project Number:** CZQZ073018  
**Service Component:** Air Force  
**Project Location:** Cannon Air Force Base, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct a permanent aircraft wash rack hangar of adequate size and configuration to provide all weather capability for periodic scheduled and unscheduled maintenance of permanent assigned and TDY aircraft up to C-130 size. No facilities exist at Cannon AFB that can accommodate C-130 washing in a climate controlled environment, impacting flying operations and the mission.

**Project Name:** SOF CV-22 Squadron Operations Facility  
**Request:** \$13,600,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Air Force  
**Project Number:** CZQZ063023  
**Service Component:** Air Force  
**Project Location:** Cannon Air Force Base, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct an adequate facility to secure planning, briefing and critique aircrews and to direct flight operations in support of assigned CV-22 aircraft. No facilities exist at Cannon AFB that can accommodate CV-22 squadron operations. Lack of an adequate squadron operations facility will adversely impact the CV-22 squadron operations and the mission at Cannon.

## Holloman AFB

**Project Name:** Parallel Taxiway, Runway 07/25  
**Request:** \$8,000,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Air Force  
**Project Number:** KWRD083007  
**Service Component:** Air Force  
**Project Location:** Holloman Air Force Base, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct a taxiway parallel to Runway 07/25 extending from the existing Taxiway F eastward to intersect with the new taxiway being constructed as part of the FY10 UAS bed down. Due to the high susceptibility of the F-22A to engine damage caused by ingesting Foreign Object Debris (FOD), F-22A operations require pavements free of FOD.

**Project Name:** BEAR Set Asset Storage Facility  
**Request:** \$17,500,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Air Force  
**Project Number:** KWRD013000  
**Service Component:** Air Force  
**Project Location:** Holloman Air Force Base, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct warehouse space, including bin and bulk storage, for maximum protection of deployable War Reserve Material (WRM) Bare Base assets from the weather. Currently, the majority of assts assigned to the 49<sup>th</sup> Material Maintenance Group (MMG) are stored in containers in open areas with exposure to weather, dust and temperature extremes. Availability of the storage warehouse would enable assets to be maintained in a constant state of readiness and postured for worldwide deployment with greatly reduced maintenance costs.

## Kirtland AFB

**Project Name:** Military Working Dog Facility  
**Request:** \$4,400,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Air Force  
**Project Number:** MHMV053102  
**Service Component:** Air Force  
**Project Location:** Kirtland Air Force Base, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct a military working dog (MWD) facility, including 14 indoor/outdoor kennels and 4 isolation kennels, exercise facilities, and necessary infrastructure. The present MWD facility is a worn-out, undersize, and outdated structure built in 1954 and converted to a kennel in 1978. Over a dozen MWDs at Kirtland support USAD operations on-base and worldwide.

**Project Name:** 550<sup>th</sup> Operation Facility  
**Request:** \$16,500,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Air Force  
**Project Number:** MHMV083121  
**Service Component:** Air Force  
**Project Location:** Kirtland Air Force Base, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct a new facility to provide the increased space required by the 550<sup>th</sup> Operations Squadron to alleviate current overcrowding and accommodate a 40 percent increase in aircraft and air crew by 2015. Lack of expanded facility will result in the 550<sup>th</sup> Operations Squadron continuing to be compressed into an undersized space. The 550<sup>th</sup> is part of the 58<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Wing and performs training on three different C-130 airframes and trains over 200 students per year.

**Project Name:** Crash/Fire/Rescue Station  
**Request:** \$7,800,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Air Force  
**Project Number:** MHMV083116  
**Service Component:** Air Force  
**Project Location:** Kirtland Air Force Base, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct a new crash/fire/rescue station to protect the main runway used by the Air Force and the Albuquerque International Airport, where a few seconds of response time can make a critical difference. It would replace a 56 year-old building that has numerous deficiencies including personnel safety concerns.

**Project Name:** Nuclear Systems Wing and Sustainment Center  
**Request:** \$49,000,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Air Force  
**Project Number:** MHMV103105  
**Service Component:** Air Force  
**Project Location:** Kirtland Air Force Base, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct a two-story structure built as a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) addition to the existing Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center (AFNWC) building. This new center will house the recently established 498<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Systems Wing and the Sustainment and Integration Center. The 498<sup>th</sup> is responsible for sustainment, modernization and acquisition support of nuclear weapon system programs.

### White Sands Missile Range

**Project Name:** Rapid Response Laboratory Facility  
**Request:** \$1,850,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Army  
**Project Number:** 73643  
**Service Component:** Army  
**Project Location:** White Sands Missile Range, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would expand and upgrade the capabilities of the Rapid Response Laboratory (RRL) to significantly improve electronic piece-part and Line Replaceable Unit (LRU) testing support for current systems, Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (IED), Future Combat Systems (FCS), National Laboratories and Commercial customers. This expansion will allow WSMR to properly support its current demand for nuclear effects, directed energy and E3 testing of DOD weapons/systems. At the current time, the RRL's workload exceeds the required lab space to perform set up and analysis of items under test.

**Project Name:** Network Enterprise Center  
**Request:** \$32,000,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Army  
**Project Number:** 33584  
**Service Component:** Army  
**Project Location:** White Sands Missile Range, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would construct a single facility to support WSMR customers with secure, reliable, modern telephone services and infrastructure. The current facility, constructed in 1962, is entirely inadequate for necessary upgrades, even though it is the main hub of all telephone service at White Sands and, as such, any failure or shut down will halt various critical activities.

**Project Name:** Storage Vault and Elevator  
**Request:** \$5,000,000  
**Account:** Military Construction, Army  
**Project Number:** 60556  
**Service Component:** Army  
**Project Location:** White Sands Missile Range, NM  
**Project Description:** This project would enhance an existing vulnerability test facility with necessary security, safety and surety mission requirements. This includes the construction of a storage vault, lift system and a weather shield to protect outdoor testing. The proposed modification to the facility adds additional features to the building consistent with current emphasis on anti-terrorism and force protection.

In addition to the projects listed above, I fully support the following projects as included in the President's Budget Request:

- Dormitory (96 RM): Cannon AFB, NM
- SOF Add/Alter Simulator Facility for MC-130: Cannon AFB, NM
- SOF Aircraft Parking Apron for MC-130J: Cannon AFB, NM
- SOF C-130 Parking Apron Phase I: Cannon AFB, NM
- SOF Hanger/AMU for MC-130J: Cannon AFB, NM
- SOF Operations and Training Complex: Cannon AFB, NM
- UAS Squadron Ops Facility: Cannon AFB, NM
- Army Reserve Center/Land: Army Reserve, Las Cruces, NM
- Readiness Center: Army National Guard, Farmington, NM
- UAS Add/Alter Maintenance Hanger: Holloman AFB, NM
- UAS Maintenance Hangar: Holloman AFB, NM
- Aerial Delivery Facility Addition: Kirtland AFB, NM
- Armament Shop: Kirtland AFB, NM
- H/MC-130 Fuel System Maintenance Facility: Kirtland AFB, NM
- Barracks: White Sands Missile Range, NM
- Health and Dental Clinics: White Sands Missile Range, NM

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Dear Chairman Levin and Ranking Member McCain:

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, in any congressionally directed spending item that I request for inclusion in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011.

Sincerely

Jeff Bingaman  
U.S. Senator

