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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4304

March 4, 2014

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND POWER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT
AND THE ECONOMY

COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SPACE

The Honorable Chuck Hagel
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Mr. Secretary,

The Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle (AMPV) program is the Army's replacement for the old, Vietnam-era M113 Armored Personnel Carriers. The current AMPV acquisition is a two-year-old competitive procurement that is now facing outside influence by a private contractor requesting Congress delay the AMPV acquisition process. This effort is aimed at persuading the Army to buy alternative vehicles—the Stryker Vehicle—which is not in the Army's plan and would be a more expensive acquisition strategy.

BAE Systems and its suppliers, which include Red River, constitute one of the leading competitors for the AMPV as currently worded, and these suppliers are working to provide the Army with a winning proposal. If the competitive procurement results in an award for BAE System's vehicle, it will become a major production program for many suppliers across the country, including the Red River Army Depot.

I am specifically asking you to uphold the existing Request for Proposal (RFP), and select the best candidate based on the merits currently expressed in this request. Altering the RFP as a result of undue outside influence by competing contractors would result in unnecessary delay in the delivery of a long-overdue vehicle that is needed by our soldiers. The Army has structured a fair competition, and many in the Army and Industry are working diligently to submit the best, most cost-effective solution in accordance with the RFP. I ask that the Army stand by the existing RFP for the good of the Nation, the Army, and the soldier on the ground. With best regards, I am,

Sincerely,


Ralph M. Hall