



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
1000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

November 9, 2011

The Honorable Scott Rigell
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4602

Scott
Dear Representative Rigell:

Thank you for your letter of October 24, 2011, concerning the condition of the electrical distribution system at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story.

We are aware of the electrical safety challenges caused by the main switchgear fire in March 2009. As your letter recommended, we are pursuing the use of emergency military construction authority to correct the safety and mission support issues related to the electrical distribution system. We recognize the importance that Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story plays in executing our Maritime Strategy and to the state of Virginia. Our final solution must not only correct the immediate safety issues, but do so in a way that wisely invests our resources in a long-term solution for the installation and the supported forces. We have included funds for the project in FY13, but are pursuing emergency authority to move ahead on this important project.

Again, I appreciate you taking the time to share your concerns on this issue. A similar letter has been sent to Senators Warner and Webb and Representatives Forbes, Wittman, and Scott. The Department of the Navy appreciates your continued support for our installations and operating forces. If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray Mabus", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Ray Mabus