

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 14, 2003

Charlie Hall
President, General Dynamics Land Systems
38500 Mound Road
Sterling Heights, Michigan 48310-3200

Dear Mr. Hall:

As Members of the Washington State Congressional delegation we are writing to encourage you to select our State as the site for the Assembly and Test Facility for General Dynamics' Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle program.

As you know, Washington State has a long-standing and vitally important relationship with our nation's armed forces and defense-related industries. Washington State is home to Fort Lewis, McChord Air Force Base, Fairchild Air Force Base, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Naval Submarine Base/Bangor, Marine Security Detachment/Bangor, Naval Home Port/Everett, and Naval Air Station/Whidbey Island. In addition to those major installations, the Yakima Firing Range and USAF Survival Proving Ground are in close proximity to the proposed Water Test Facility at Vantage.

In addition to our military heritage, Washington State has long been regarded as a leader in the defense and aero-space business. We recognize the importance of General Dynamics' work in connection with our Trident Submarine fleet and General Dynamic's current Tactical and Missile Systems installation at Moses Lake, Washington, as being part of our tremendous defense industrial base.

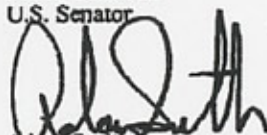
The proposed site in Grant County, Washington, provides a number of attributes that are unique to Washington State. Of paramount importance is Washington's strategic location as a hub for worldwide intermodal transportation. The proposed Assembly Facility site is adjacent to one of the largest commercial runways in the United States and Interstate 90 connects the site to all points east and to the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma to the west. With the addition of a massive fiber-optic network, some of the lowest electric power rates in the nation, and a highly-skilled defense-oriented workforce, we strongly believe that locating your facility in Washington State will be a key factor in the success of your program.

We understand that the timing for the site selection will happen this spring and we would very much like to be kept apprised of any timing delays or decisions that General Dynamics makes. In the meantime, please let us know if any of our staff can be of assistance to you as you gather information on the proposed Grant County site.

Sincerely,



Maria Cantwell
U.S. Senator



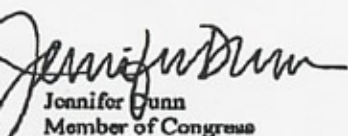
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Norm Dicks
Member of Congress



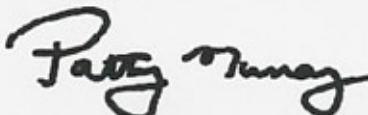
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



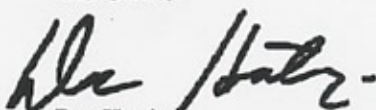
Jennifer Dunn
Member of Congress



Brian Baird
Member of Congress



Patty Murray
U.S. Senator



Doo Hastings
Member of Congress



George Rathbun
Member of Congress



Jay Insee
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress

cc: Cork (Cordis) Colburn
Vice President, Government Relations
General Dynamics
3190 Fairview Park Drive
Falls Church, Virginia 22042-4523