

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 5, 2007



Mr. James Tegnelia
Director, Defense Threat Reduction Agency
8725 John J. Kingman Road
Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-6201

Dear Mr Tegnelia:

We are writing to request that the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) hold public information meetings on the proposed Divine Strake experiment and draft "Large-Scale, Open-Air Explosive Detonation Divine Strake at the Nevada Test Site Revised Environmental Assessment" in Boise, Idaho, at the earliest possible date.

The public comment period for this document is currently slated to end Jan. 24, 2007. Recognizing that the draft document for public review was issued just prior to the recent busy holiday season on December 22, 2006, we also request that you extend the comment period for this test for another 30 days to allow appropriate public input into this process.

The citizens of Idaho deserve a meaningful opportunity to discuss this proposal with DTRA representatives and voice their opinions before this test goes forth. We understand the Environmental Assessment has determined that Idaho will be unaffected by this non-nuclear testing. However, past nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site has created mistrust, concern and confusion in Idaho. Ongoing discussions regarding health impacts and the inequity of federal compensation legislation have underscored these problems. It is incumbent on DTRA to take this opportunity to speak with and listen to Idahoans to rebuild trust and address their concerns.

This matter is of great importance and should only proceed with the fullest possible attention to potentially affected individuals in our state. While we are certainly not against the testing of weapons that may be vital to the mission of national defense, we find the procedure and timing of disclosing the details of the experiment to the public, to the exclusion of Idaho, unsatisfactory and do not support the progression of Divine Strake without the appropriate input of Idahoans to the process.

Please contact Craig Ferguson (Office of Senator Mike Crapo) at (202) 224-3048 as soon as possible to confirm DTRA's availability to participate in a meeting in Idaho and extend the comment period.

Larry E. Craig
United States Senator
520 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Mike Crapo
United States Senator
239 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Mike Simpson
Member of Congress
1339 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Bill Sali
Member of Congress
508 Cannon H.O.B.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Sincerely,
State of Idaho Congressional Delegation

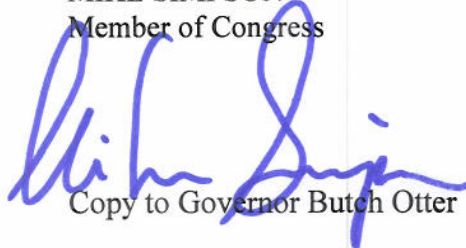
LARRY E. CRAIG
United States Senator

MIKE CRAPO
United States Senator

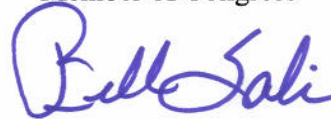


MIKE SIMPSON
Member of Congress

BILL SALI
Member of Congress



Copy to Governor Butch Otter



Cc: D. Rigby and J. Subko (DTRA)