



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

JUN 07 2007

Dear Mr. Hastings:

Thank you for your letter of May 3 regarding the proposed transfer of funds from the Department of State's Office of the Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund (NDF) to the Department of Energy to support the construction of an extension wing to the existing Hazardous Materials Management and Emergency Response (HAMMER) Training and Education Center, located in the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in Richland, Washington. We regret the delay in responding to your inquiry.

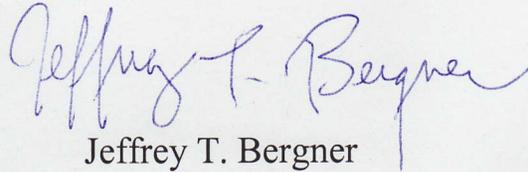
Although this activity is normally funded from the Department of Energy's regular budget, the Department of State, in an effort to help the USG meet its nonproliferation objectives, has historically supported development of the HAMMER facility. In 1999, the NDF contributed to the construction of a Port Entry Training Facility, which included enhanced props and state-of-the-art simultaneous translation equipment. On the basis of our previous work, the Department approved up to \$2.25 million for use in constructing an extension work to the existing HAMMER Administration Building for use in classroom Interdict/RADACAD training of foreign nationals on October 18, 2005.

Earlier this year, the Department reviewed competing uses of NDF funds during which NDF Project No. 243 (the HAMMER project) was temporarily placed on hold. The Department recently revised its assessment of the potential funds required for other purposes and took the decision to resume implementation of the HAMMER project. We currently plan to undertake an Economy Act transfer of the necessary funds to the Department of Energy.

The Honorable
Doc Hastings,
House of Representatives.

We hope this information is useful to you. Please do not hesitate to contact us again if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeffrey T. Bergner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jeffrey T. Bergner
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs