



*Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515*

*Anna G. Eshoo
Fourteenth District
California*

September 22, 2009

The Honorable Ray Mabus
Secretary of the Navy
Department of Defense
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350

Dear Secretary Mabus,

Thank you for taking the time to review the process by which Hangar One will be remediated and restored for reuse by NASA Ames. As you are aware, Hangar One at Moffett Field is a historical landmark that once housed naval airships that were used for "sub hunting" during WWII. It is one of the world's largest free-standing structures and covers over 8 acres.

This issue has a long history of negotiations between NASA and DOD about responsibility for the Hanger One clean up and reuse process. You've inherited a difficult problem and I appreciate your leadership on this matter. I'm pleased that you and NASA have agreed to mediation by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to decide the remaining question of responsibility for re-skinning Hangar One after it has been de-skinned and remediated for reuse by NASA Ames. Your staff has already met with OMB, and NASA will be meeting with them this week. As you are aware, I've communicated the importance of this review to the Director of OMB and I have requested expeditious action.

Under Secretary Work contacted my office on Friday, September 18th in the afternoon as I was traveling back to my District to inform me that he has decided to move forward with awarding a contract to begin remediation of Hangar One. Undersecretary Work and his staff assured my office orally that the reason for awarding the contract now was due to the need to obligate funds before the end of FY09 which is next week, mentioning concern about losing the \$23 million appropriation identified for the remediation. This includes de-skinning Hangar One, but not re-skinning it.

As you can imagine my constituents are very concerned that this process not move forward without a plan between the two agencies for re-skinning and reuse of Hangar One. Many will view the decision to move forward with a contract with grave concern for the future of Hangar One. Mountain View City Manager Kevin Duggan has said he is concerned that "when the Navy makes a contract, we will be at a point of no return."

I ask for your written commitment and assurance that the Navy will not move forward with the actual de-skinning of the Hangar until there is a plan in place to re-skin Hangar One. This can't be developed until OMB decides which agency is responsible for the re-skinning.

I look forward to your written response and thank you in advance for it, as well as your leadership on the future of this historic landmark. Please have your staff fax your response to my Washington D.C. Office to the attention of my Chief of Staff, Jason Mahler at 202-225-8890. If you have questions, Mr. Mahler can be reached at 202-225-8104.

Sincerely, *and gratefully,*



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jack Murtha, Chairman, Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations
Members, Bay Area Delegation
Director Peter Orszag, Office of Management and Budget
Major General Charles Bolden, NASA Administrator
Deputy Administrator Lori Garver, NASA
Dr. Pete Worden, Center Director, NASA Ames
The Honorable Margaret Abe-Koga, Mayor, Mountain View City Council
The Honorable Anthony Spitaleri, Mayor, Sunnyvale City Council
Mr. Bob Moss, Restoration Advisory Board Chair
Mr. Lenny Siegel, Director, Center for Public Environmental Oversight