

WALTER B. JONES
3D DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA

ROOM 2333
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3415

COMMITTEES:
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1105-C CORPORATE DRIVE
GREENVILLE, NC 27858
(252) 931-1003
(800) 351-1697

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3303

May 1, 2013

The Honorable Ray Mabus
Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Dear Secretary Mabus:

I am writing today regarding the Department of the Navy (DON)'s outlying landing field (OLF) plans for North Carolina. As you know, this issue has been of great concern to me for many years.

The DON has stated that the OLF is needed to train F-18E/F Super Hornet pilots. I fully support the DON's efforts to ensure that our pilots are the best in the world. However, the DON's inability to finalize its OLF plans has caused considerable stress and problems for my constituents.

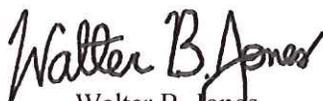
Most recently, the DON has considered a site in Camden County, North Carolina, which is a county that I have the privilege of representing in Congress. Local stakeholders consistently oppose the OLF because it would cause condemnation of over 4,000 acres of prime agricultural land and hamper further economic development. Together, Camden County and the adjacent county of Currituck, which I also represent, have spent over \$500,000 in taxpayer money fighting this OLF initiative. Though there may be acceptable sites in North Carolina, the Camden-Gates-Currituck County areas are not. The DON has not fully or effectively addressed their concerns.

Northeastern North Carolina's leaders are unable to plan for the economic future of their citizens because of the threat of an OLF and the DON's inability to provide any clear direction on the OLF problem. For instance, the Camden County Commissioners have attempted to recruit industry to come to their county, but because of the uncertain future of the OLF, many companies have rejected Camden County as a good place for future development.

The current state of the OLF process is unacceptable to both me and my constituents, and I ask you and your staff to meet with me on this situation. I would be very grateful if we could arrange a mutually agreeable time for a complete briefing on the DON's OLF plans.

I look forward to your prompt attention to my request. I am hopeful that this briefing will allow me to work for the good of both our military and our regional stakeholders.

Sincerely,


Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress

cc: Chief of Naval Operations