



UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1100 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1100

COMPTROLLER

The Honorable John Culberson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

MAY - 3 2013

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to notify the committee of the proposed reprogramming of funds for the projects and amounts shown below. A detailed justification is enclosed.

<u>Service/Installation</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Request (\$)</u>
<u>TRICARE Management Activity (TMA)</u>			
Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland	United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (USAMRICD) Facility Replacement	2009	23,400,000

A similar letter is being sent to the Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies. Additional details will be provided separately. Thank you for your continued support of DoD programs.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Hale

Enclosure:
As stated

cc:
The Honorable Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Ranking Member



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MAY - 3 2013

The Honorable Tim Johnson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to notify the committee of the proposed reprogramming of funds for the project and amount shown below. A detailed justification is enclosed.

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cc:
The Honorable Mark Kirk
Ranking Member

Bid Expiration Date: N/A (delay costs accrue starting June 15, 2013)
Military Construction, Defense-Wide (TRICARE Management Activity)
Reprogramming Request

Installation: Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland
Project: United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (USAMRICD) Facility Replacement.
Authorization: Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, Public Law 110-417

Estimated Cost (\$000):

Previously Appropriated	262,790
Previously Reprogrammed	-
Requested Reprogramming	23,400
Total Estimated Cost	286,190

Description: This project replaces the existing US Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (USAMRICD) facility located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. The facility consolidates neat and dilute chemical surety laboratories; vivarium; education and training facilities; administrative space; logistics; support areas; and classified work areas. The project consolidates USAMRICD's laboratory and supporting functions currently located in 15 separate buildings into a single 526,000 SF facility. The new facility provides laboratories with appropriate space, clean power to house sophisticated instrumentation, and the capability to meet General Laboratory Practice guidelines. Engineering controls to protect the workers and the environment will be provided. These controls provide redundancy in the event of an emergency. More precise control of the temperature and humidity in laboratories is essential for research integrity. Construction and operations must comply with Federal and State laws, DoD and Army regulations, and voluntary compliance with National accreditation organizations.

Justification: This project serves as our Nation's Center of Excellence for research and development of medical countermeasures and therapeutics against chemical threats to include chemical warfare agents, toxic industrial chemicals and materials, and toxins. In accordance with the Chemical Weapons Convention, of which the United States is a signatory, there are only a few laboratories authorized to use concentrated chemical agents and USAMRICD is one of these designated and certified laboratories. Much of the research performed at USAMRICD involves extremely dangerous chemicals at full concentration.

Congress has appropriated \$262.790 million incrementally for this project in FYs 2009 – 2012. This project was authorized in FY 2009 at \$430 million. When the construction contract was awarded, significant cost savings were recognized and therefore, the Department requested only \$262.790 million in total appropriations. The project is currently at 90% completion, but an additional \$23.4 million is now required to complete construction, perform required laboratory

certifications, and to comply with safety protocols for chemical agents known to be extremely toxic and lethal. Without this reprogramming, the project cannot be completed and mission requirements will not be met. These efforts do not increase the scope of the project and are necessary in order for the project to meet its required mission.

The additional cost includes:

- \$10.0 million to fund mandatory in-scope modifications during chemical safety and operational certifications required for facility occupancy and chemical agent operations. Certification is contingent upon making these mandatory changes.
- \$2.9 million for modifications to the pressurized ceilings of the laboratories in accordance with Toxic Chemical Agents Safety Standards.
- \$2.7 million has been evaluated by the contracting officer as having merit for more than 126 line item contractor requests for equitable adjustment including \$100k for Piping Insulation and \$252k for Fire Proofing at Drywall Protected Columns.
- \$2.3 million for design changes and support for a highly complex, technical mechanical and electrical system needed to handle dangerously toxic materials.
- \$2.3 million to replace un-welded sound attenuators with fully welded units to allow safety certification and to prevent leaks.
- \$1.4 million to replace all ductwork associated with the use of chemical agents because all ducts must be fully welded to ensure containment.
- \$1.8 million to cover other various costs, including those associated with the enhanced independent commissioning agents required for a complex exhaust and filtration system.

Because of the unique mission requirements and rarity of facilities which conduct research and/or handle highly toxic chemical agents, there is very limited design guidance, regulatory technical specifications, or established "industry standards." Throughout the process, changes have been required to assure safety and research integrity. Without this reprogramming, the project will not be completed after a significant investment of \$262.790 million and USAMRICD will not be able to develop countermeasures for a growing array of chemical threats. Unnecessary delays in delivering medical products will jeopardize the safety of war fighters and civilian officials responding to a chemical attack in the United States and abroad. The laboratories and chemical vaults will not comply with current surety standards and our Nation's ability to research and develop medical countermeasures against chemical threats will be constrained. USAMRICD will continue to expose staff to greater risk than necessary in handling some of the most toxic and lethal chemical agents.

This reprogramming effort is a result of intense coordination with the industry experts, design agents, facility users and operators, and certification and safety professionals responsible for final approval of the facility for operation.

Source of Funds: Bid savings from the following project are available to fund this requirement:

(Dollars in Thousands)

<u>Project/Location</u>	<u>Fiscal</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Appropriated</u>	<u>Current Working</u> <u>Estimate</u>	<u>Proposed</u> <u>Reprogramming</u>
Fort Bragg, NC Hospital Alteration	2012	57,600	30,500	23,400