

Vista

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November 11, 2009

The Honorable Robert Gates
Secretary of Defense
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington DC 20301-1400

COPY

The Honorable John McHugh
Secretary of the Army
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington DC 20301-1400

Re: BAE Systems
Sealy, Texas

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in protest of the recent decision by the U.S. Army to award the Army's FMTV contract to the Oshkosh Corporation - a company which has no practical experience building these vehicles, instead of a company - BAE Systems, with a proven track record in successfully building these vehicles for the last seventeen years.

Based on available information, I believe it is quite probable that the decision made by the U.S. Army was flawed and that the Army did not adhere to their stated objective to conduct a best-value competition based on a clear-cut set of criteria as stated in their Request For Proposal relative to this contract, but made their decision simply on the basis of price.

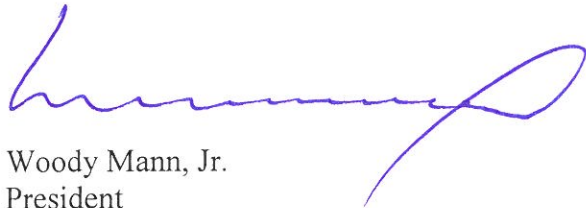
Since price was only forty percent of the stated evaluation criteria, I find it inconceivable that, had they made an objective decision based on the majority of the criteria specified in the RFP, they would have done anything other than award the contract to BAE Systems, based on this company's previous track record with this program, as opposed to awarding the contract to a company who has only built one of these FMTV's as a demonstration vehicle.

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As previously stated, BAE has been successfully building FMTV's at the current location in Sealy, Texas, for over seventeen years, having produced over 56,000 of these vehicles during that time period, with over a ninety four percent operational readiness rate. They currently employ over 3,200 people at the current production facility which contributes over \$ 500 million annually to the Texas economy. In an economy where the current President of the United States is desperately trying to "preserve and create new jobs", I find it unimaginable that his administration would publicly support a decision such as that made by the Army.

Based on these factors alone, I believe it is incumbent upon you to demand that the Army reconsider its previous decision regarding this contract and objectively consider all factors involved in the production of this vehicle. If they do that, I believe it is highly likely their decision would be reversed and they would rightly award the contract to BAE Systems.

Sincerely,
Vista Equities Group, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Woody Mann, Jr.", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Woody Mann, Jr.
President

WMjr/mw

cc: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Senator John Cornyn
Congressman Michael McCaul