



HEADQUARTERS
ALASKAN COMMAND (ALCOM)
ELMENDORF AIR FORCE BASE, ALASKA 99506

81 AUG 2005

Lieutenant General Carrol H. Chandler
Commander, Alaskan Command
9480 Pease Avenue, Suite 101
Elmendorf AFB AK 99506-2100

Mr. George P. Wuerch
Chairman, Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority
619 E. Ship Creek Avenue, #244
Anchorage AK 99501

Dear Mr. Wuerch

We have completed our rough order of magnitude (ROM) assessment of the proposed access routes for the Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority (KABATA) project. Our ROM was locally derived and should be treated as a very rough estimate. Any further study must be conducted in conjunction with our higher headquarters and the costs funded by KABATA. Our assessment does not include the cost or effects of a rail added to the corridor or moving the FLR-9 antenna. We make the assumption that the bridge will be a completely closed system with overpasses/underpasses to allow free movement on the proposed Elmendorf-Fort Richardson joint installation. We do not include the costs of this closed system and passes in our ROM. The results of our ROM assessment, based on 2005 dollars and subject to inflation, are:

- a. The Yellow Route (Boniface Gate) ROM cost is up to \$343M.
- b. The Green Route (above the bluff) ROM cost is up to \$264M.
- c. The Red Route (below the bluff) ROM cost is up to \$218M.

Based on our rough analysis, we believe that all issues can be resolved, given appropriate funding by KABATA. The FLR-9 antenna and Global HF antenna system will require further study on our part. The earliest we expect a decision on the FLR-9 antenna is October 2007, which is predicated on the replacement system being fully operational before the current antenna can be turned off. Also, a study is required to determine potential impacts on the existing Global HF antenna.

In the interim, we will ask both Army and Air Force Headquarters for permission to allow a small team of experts to survey potential routes across and around Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson. We will notify you when that permission has been received. Your patience in this matter is appreciated, and we hope our ROM will help further scope this project. As you are aware, this is an important decision for the DoD and State of Alaska. It is our desire to do what is right for all involved.

Sincerely

CARROL H. CHANDLER
Lieutenant General, USAF
Commander

cc: Governor Murkowski
Senator Stevens
Senator Murkowski

Congressman Young
COMPACAF
Commander, USARPAC
Mayor Begich
3 WG/CC
USAG-AK/CC
ALCOM/J02/J4