

JOHN McCAIN  
ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

## United States Senate

August 20, 2014

[REDACTED]  
Coupeville, WA 98239

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED]

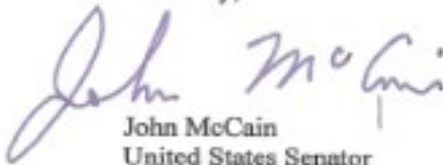
Thank you for your letter of August 12, 2014, and for bringing to my attention to the open letter from Citizens Harmed by Disclosure Deception regarding Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. I appreciate your concerns about the potential impact EA-18G Growler flight operations associated with this base have on your health and its impact on the environment and property values.

As you may be aware, the Navy's Environmental Impact Study is still underway. On August 11, 2014, the spokesperson for Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, announced that the stand-up of the next Electronic Attack Squadron at Whidbey Island that was originally planned for October would be delayed until after the completion of the Environment Impact Study. I will monitor that development closely.

Inasmuch as this situation appears to involve litigation between local coalition advocacy groups and the Navy, my ability to involve myself in this matter squarely is limited. I have, however, contacted the Secretary of the Navy and asked for an update on the situation on Whidbey Island. (See enclosure.) Also, please be assured that, in informing my decisions on future relevant legislation and in connection with Congress' role as the oversight body regarding relevant issues, I will give due consideration to the points that you, Citizens of Ebey's Reserve, and the Citizens Harmed by Disclosure Deception have presented.

Finally, in keeping with Senate custom, I am forwarding your letter to both Washington senators, Senator Cantwell and Senator Murray. If my staff or I can be of any more assistance, please contact my Military Fellow, Micah Murphy at (202) 224-2235.

Sincerely,

  
John McCain  
United States Senator

Cc: The Honorable Patty Murray  
The Honorable Maria Cantwell

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