

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2008

The Honorable Michael Chertoff
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Re: Former George Air Force Base, City of Victorville, California

Dear Secretary Chertoff:

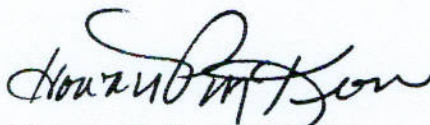
As you may know, our offices are very supportive of economic development at the former George Air Force Base, which impacts both our Congressional districts. The base closure caused high unemployment in and around the City of Victorville. The current national unemployment rate is 4.6%, while the Victorville high desert area still lags behind with an unemployment rate above 6.9%. Therefore, we are encouraged to learn that the former base, now known as the Southern California Logistics Airport (SCLA), may have potential new sources of capital.

The city of Victorville is negotiating for an investment of more than \$100 million through CMB Export, LLC, which was designated a Regional Center in 1997 under the EB-5 Pilot Program. CMB has formed a new investment group called CMB Infrastructure Investment Group to bring foreign capital investment to areas affected by military base closures, and focus that capital on infrastructure funding. The city believes it can leverage this investment to support a \$1 billion initiative at SCLA. We've been told that the preliminary job projections for this project exceed 40,000 over the life of the project.

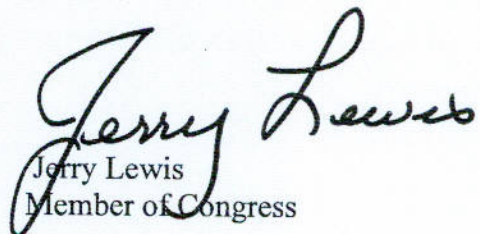
We believe such investment is vital to create jobs at the SCLA and support the economy of our districts and their residents. The approval of qualified EB-5 petitions will help ensure that our community will remain on its current path towards greater employment and economic growth for its residents. This is clearly supportive of the EB-5 Pilot Program, which is to assist communities that have demonstrated a greater need because of their high unemployment rates.

Thank you in advance for assistance in this important matter.

Sincerely,



Howard P. "Buck" McKeon
Member of Congress



Jerry Lewis
Member of Congress

cc: Dr. Emilio Gonzales, Director, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
Mr. Maurice Berez, Chief Adjudications Officer, Investor and Regional Center Program
Mr. Terry E. Caldwell, Mayor, City of Victorville