July 12, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

To Whom It May Concern:

We as the members of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of York, Maine are writing to strongly protest the closure of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Of the 4,500 jobs that will be lost should that closure occur, 200 are held by York citizens. Those jobs and those employees are highly skilled and irreplaceable. They represent a significant portion of our population and the loss of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard would severely impact those families, forcing most of them to move away to find that specialized employment and leave a gaping hole in our community.

Please reconsider this closing in light of its economic and community impact, in addition to the well-documented loss to the Navy should this highly skilled and efficient shipyard close.

Sincerely,

Town of York Board of Selectmen

David F. Marshall
Leonard V. Dorrian
Torbert H. Macdonald Jr.

J. Dwight Bardwell
Michael L. Estes

DCN:4854