



The Associated General Contractors of New Hampshire, Inc.

**48 Grandview Road ▼ Bow, New Hampshire 03304
603/225-2701 ▼ Fax 603/226-3859**

September 29, 2009

Ms. Lynn A. Intrepidi
Mr. Al Stewart
Interim National Direction, Office of Job Corps
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Ms. Intrepidi and Mr. Stewart:

The Associated General Contractors (AGC) of New Hampshire is writing this letter in support of AGC of America's letter (see attached letter) regarding the industries concern over why a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) will be required on the new Job Corps facility to be built in Manchester, NH. Along with AGC of America, AGC of NH questions why a government mandated project labor agreement was determined to be the best course of action for this project. AGC of NH feels that a PLA requirement on this job is not in the best interest of New Hampshire contractors and subcontractors because it will restrict many qualified New Hampshire construction firms from being able to bid on the project.

The AGC of America letter outlines many of the concerns AGC of NH and its members have with the Job Corps project requirements. AGC of NH supports both union and open shop contractors, but finds difficulty with a government-mandated PLA. The government-mandated PLA eliminates a large percentage of General Contractors in this State from being able to participate on this project.

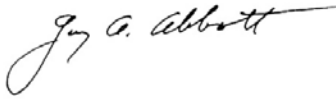
AGC of NH also questions the Department's requirement that the project be 100% small business set aside. The requirement limits the project to businesses that have total gross sales of under \$33.5 million, which is about the cost of the project itself. Since this is considered a large project, by most project standards in New Hampshire, it doesn't seem to make sense to limit the project to only firms who haven't done this size work in the last three years.

AGC of NH believes this project will help bolster the construction industry in the State, but feels that the requirements are not consistent with the New Hampshire

market. AGC of NH would appreciate the Department taking the time to consider our concerns, as well as those listed in the AGC of America letter. This project has the potential to bring much needed work to our state, but without restructuring the requirements, New Hampshire contractors will either be ineligible because of the small business set aside or unable to bid because of the PLA requirements.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary A. Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "G".

Gary Abbott
Executive Vice President

CC: AGC of NH Board of Directors
CC: Steve Sandherr, AGC of America