



**Dion Louise Aroner** ASSEMBLYWOMAN, FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

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CHAIR, ASSEMBLY HUMAN SERVICES

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SELECT COMMITTEES:  
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MENTAL HEALTH  
JOINT TASK FORCE ON  
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

March 13, 2000

Glen Price, President  
West Contra Costa Unified School District  
1108 Bissell Ave.  
Richmond, CA 94801-3135

Dear Mr. Price:

I am writing to support the West County School District Construction Stabilization Policy.

This proposal will encourage the use of labor project agreements for the District's large capital construction projects. It is important that the WCCUSD have a productive partnership with the local construction labor community. This will help boost the economy by creating local construction jobs and increase local support for the District's construction projects.

Adopting labor project agreements will result in having an apprentice from a state approved construction trade program working from each of the trades who would be involved in building a project for the District. As a result, I believe that many more young adults from the West County community will have the opportunity to learn a trade and become productive contributors to our region.

Other governmental bodies have adopted similar project labor agreements, and have found them to be advantageous.

I urge you to support the Construction Stabilization Policy. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DION LOUISE ARONER  
14<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

cc. Members of the WCCUSD School Board

Attachment

A-3

309 Diablo Road  
Danville, California 94526  
(925) 820-8683  
(925) 820-6627 FAX  
Email:  
dist3@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us



Contra Costa County  
Board of Supervisors

**DONNA GERBER**  
District III Supervisor

10 March 2000

Glen Price, President  
Board of Education  
West Contra Costa Unified School District  
849 Lexington Avenue  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Dear Glen,

It is my understanding that the West County School District Board of Education is considering adopting a Construction Stabilization Program Policy.

The County has had experience with this type of policy regarding public capital projects and used this policy for construction of the Contra Costa County Regional Medical Center in Martinez. During my term, the project was completed on budget and on time and we have been very pleased with the result.

I would be happy to discuss our experience in greater detail. If you have any questions, you may reach me at (925) 820-8683.

Sincerely,

Donna Gerber  
Supervisor, District III

Attachment

A-2

# CAMPBELL

## GOVERNMENTAL ACCESS

March 24, 2000

The Hon. Glen Price  
Chairperson and Members  
West Contra Costa Unified School District  
1100 Bissell Avenue  
Richmond, CA. 94801

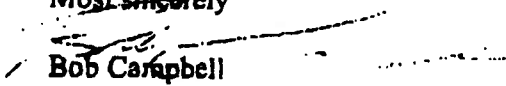
Dear Chairperson Glen & Members:

I am sending you this letter in support of the **West County School Construction Stabilization Program Policy**, which you are in the process of reviewing. I believe there are several good reasons to implement the policy. In the interest of brevity I will only mention a few of them. Having sat on the **State Allocation Board** for over thirteen years gave me the chance to review and ultimately vote on hundreds of school construction projects. The projects which had been done by contractors using construction trade union workers had many less problems than those that did not and more often than not came in ahead of schedule. The main reason for this success was due to the skill levels of those workers who had undergone training in the various trade unions apprenticeship programs. In the construction business time and skill is money. A lot of money.

A second reason has to do with quality of life. The cost of living in California, and in particular in the Bay area, is very costly. Union workers are paid better and have good benefits. This means that they can work, live and purchase goods and services in the areas in which they live. Many contractors who use non union workers bring workers from out of state, often times paying them less than half the normal rates which union members receive and with few or no benefits. All workers are entitled to a living wage so they can live decent productive lives. I don't believe that any public entity, whose employees belong to collective bargaining units, ought to do anything less with those they hire to construct and repair it's buildings.

I would like to thank you for your consideration of this letter and its contents.

Most sincerely

  
Bob Campbell  
Assembly Member, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
Retired.

P.O. Box 455 Sta. A. Richmond, CA 94808 • (510)236-5823 • (916)442-9243 • fax (510)235-5058

Attachment

A-1



**WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

1108 Bissell Avenue  
Richmond, CA 94801-3135

Gloria L. Johnston, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

Telephone: (510) 620-2205  
FAX(510) 236-6784

October 16, 2001

Greg Feere, Chief Executive Director  
Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council  
935 Alhambra Avenue, Suite No. 2  
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Mr. Feere:

This letter is to respond to questions raised about the effectiveness of a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) passed by our Board of Trustees several months ago. The PLA was approved for the construction of a new middle school in the city of Richmond, a project of approximately \$30 million.

To date, we are very pleased with how smoothly the project is progressing. The contractors are performing at a very high level, and the attitude and responsiveness of the General Contractor has been outstanding.

Unfortunately, we have just reached ground level on the project so I cannot give you a definitive analysis of the benefit of a PLA. The school is not scheduled to open until January of 2003. At this time, it appears that the only major additional component to the project has been to have an attorney at the regular construction meetings. This adds an additional cost, but we will not know until the project is completed how to weigh that cost against the overall benefit of the PLA.

Please feel free to contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gloria Johnston".

Gloria L. Johnston, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

GLJ:cl

(GLJ052)

Attachment



## GWF ENERGY LLC

November 12, 2001

Mr. Robert Balgenorth  
President  
State Building and Construction Trades Council of California  
1225 8th Street, Suite 375  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Balgenorth: *Bob*

### Successful Completion of Hanford Energy Project, Hanford, California

GWF's Hanford Energy Project was successfully placed in service on August 27, 2001. The Project Scope included the construction of a new 95 Megawatt Gas Turbine Plant and the associated infrastructure, a one mile 115,000 Volt Transmission line and substation. The Project required 105,000 man-hours of labor, with peak manning of 180 craftspeople; and was completed in record setting time of less than 90 days. This was in spite of performing all of the work during a very hot Central Valley summer...

The Project's General Contractor, Fru-Con, adopted the Project Labor Agreement that GWF had previously negotiated with the California Building Trades. We were very pleased with the overall results, which included an excellent safety record, productivity and quality of workmanship. This project's schedule was extremely important to us, since we were building the plant in response to California's energy shortage. We found the teamwork among all the crafts on this particular job to be among the best that we have ever seen, in spite of the pressure to get the plant constructed in record time.

Respectfully,

Duane H. Nelsen  
President/CEO  
GWF Energy LLC



**BLACK & VEATCH**  
building a world of difference™

ENERGY WATER INFORMATION GOVERNMENT

April 15, 2005

Neil Struthers  
CEO  
Santa Clara & San Benito Counties  
Building & Construction Trades Council  
2102 Almaden Rd., Suite 101  
San Jose, CA. 95125-2190

Dear Neil:

I am pleased to celebrate with you the success of the recently completed Pico Power Project. Black & Veatch gratefully acknowledges the Building Trades, your affiliate local unions and their members for their skill, knowledge, safety and collaborative approach throughout the project.

A leading global engineering, consulting and construction company specializing in infrastructure development in the fields of energy, water and information, Black & Veatch contracts with the Building Trades on projects across the United States. In our view, the Santa Clara and Benito Counties Building & Construction Trades Council is a premier organization. The Pico Power Project was performed under a Project Labor Agreement and became a partnership in the true spirit of the phrase. The superior craftsmanship, the strong commitment to safety, and the consistent and clear communications helped ensure a productive worksite. There were no interruptions related to workforce issues, and the project was completed in a timely manner and within budget. We are proud to report that the project owner is satisfied with the work product.

Black & Veatch would welcome the opportunity to again work with the Santa Clara and Benito Counties Building & Construction Trades Council.

Sincerely,

Richard King  
Senior Vice President



# CITY OF MILPITAS

455 EAST CALAVERAS BOULEVARD, MILPITAS, CALIFORNIA 95035-5479 • [www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov](http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov)

October 21, 2008

Neil Struthers  
CEO  
Santa Clara & San Benito Counties  
Building & Construction Trades Council  
2102 Almaden Rd., Ste. 101  
San Jose, CA 95125

Re: Extension of PSA from Milpitas Library Project to Senior Center Project

Dear Neil;

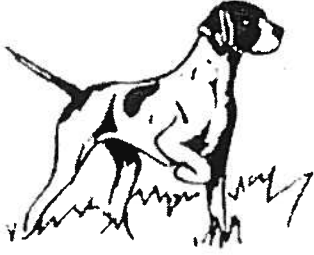
First, I would like to recognize and thank the Building Trades Council and its affiliated unions for their professional and exemplary work under the Project Stabilization Agreement for our Milpitas City Library project, soon to be completed by end of this year. The project was the model of success and we would very much like to continue the use of the PSA on our next public works project, a City funded Senior Center. We plan to bid this project next month. We are currently underway with a contractor pre-qualification process, and have included the possibility of having a Project Stabilization Agreement in place for this project.

Please let me know if the BTC is interested in extending our current relationship under the PSA to this project.

Attached please find a copy of some specifics about the project and timelines that we need to keep. We are very excited about this next project, and we would like to think that this major construction project will only help our construction industry work through this current downturn in the economy.

Sincerely,

Greg Armendariz  
Public Works Director/City Engineer



**South Point Local Schools**  
302 High Street  
South Point, Ohio 45680  
(Phone) 740.377.4315 (Fax) 740.377.9735



**Ken Cook, Superintendent**  
kcook@scoca-k12.org

November 17, 2009

Steve Burton  
Tri-State Building and Construction Trades Council  
2141 Carter Avenue  
P.O. Box 1027  
Ashland, KY 41105

Dear Steve,

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Tri-State Buildings and Construction Trades Council for a job well-done on the completion of two new elementary schools in the South Point Local School District. The buildings exhibit quality craftsmanship and will provide the students and citizens of the school district with many years of service. The contractors worked diligently to keep the buildings on schedule and on budget. The cooperation, coordination, and professionalism from your members was outstanding.

Prior to us signing a project labor agreement, I had my doubts that the project would ever get off the ground without going through the "value engineering" process that would have reduced the quality and design of the buildings. As you may recall, the first two rounds of bids came in way over budget. However, once we agreed to implement the project labor agreement the bids came in much lower and I was able to breathe a sigh of relief.

Having been engaged in building projects with and without the project labor agreement, I can say without reservation that construction goes much smoother and less problems are encountered when using a project labor agreement. More importantly, it permits the work force to be made up of local people from the Tri-State area who take special ownership of the project because not only are they taxpayers, but they have children and grandchildren who attend our schools.

In closing, let me once again express my sincere thanks to the Tri-State Building and Construction Trades Council for your partnership in helping to make our construction project a success.

Sincerely,

Ken Cook  
Superintendent

May 12, 2008

Mr. Steve Burton  
Business Manager  
Tri-State Building and Trades Council,  
AFL-CIO and its Affiliated Unions

Dear Steve:

As you know, King's Daughters Medical Center and the Tri-State Building and Trades Council entered into an agreement, which provided the Medical Center a reduction in wages as well as other concessions from the building trades. The Building Trades, represented by the council, received the right to do all work on King's Daughters' campus. This agreement began in 2004 and remains in effect through this writing.

From our recent conversation, as the Executive Director of Facilities Management, I wanted to follow up in writing to assure you that we feel the agreement has served both organizations well. With our aggressive growth at the Medical Center, this agreement has simplified my worries with regard to matching the right contractor with the right project and being able to do so in a timely fashion. Knowing we have qualified trades available right here in the Ashland area to meet whatever our demands and needs may be at any given moment has truly been a good investment for the Medical Center. The workmanship we have been given and continue to get from the building trades also has been excellent.

As discussed, if there is anything I can do as the owner's representative, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Howard Harrison  
Executive Director Facilities Management  
King's Daughters Medical Center



*Dedicated to Academic Excellence through Quality Education*

Dean Nance  
Superintendent

William M. Dressel  
Administrative Assistant

Patty Wade  
Treasurer

To: Tri-State Building and Construction Trades Council  
From: Dean Nance, Superintendent Ironton City Schools  
Date: November 2, 2009

I would like to thank the Local Trades for partnering with the Ironton City Schools on a Project Labor Agreement. The quality of Trades Union workmanship on both projects has proven to be excellent and the collaboration among the trades helped make this a superior project. We experienced minimal problems throughout the whole construction process and were able to successfully resolve all problems collectively as a team. I wholeheartedly recommend a Project Labor Agreement on any construction project.

The two buildings combined made up a 53 million dollar project. The buildings were completed within budget and on schedule. The K-8 building was on a very tight schedule, and would not have been finished without the dedication of the union trades hard work. This was the largest construction undertaking in the city of Ironton in decades. I put my trust in the tradesman to provide quality structures and they did not let me down. Ironton now has the nicest schools in Lawrence County and the State of Ohio. Your workmanship will always be part of the tradition of Ironton City Schools.

Sincerely,

Dean Nance,  
Superintendent, Ironton City Schools

BOARD OFFICES:  
105 South Fifth Street  
Ironton, Ohio 45638  
(740) 532-4133  
Fax (740) 532-2314  
[www.tigertown.com](http://www.tigertown.com)