

# **RESERVE COMPONENT TRANSFORMATION, VERMONT (ARMY RECOMMENDATION)**

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION**

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Close Chester Memorial Army Reserve Center and Organizational Maintenance Shop, Chester, VT, and Berlin Army Reserve Center, Berlin, VT, and relocate all units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center with an Organizational Maintenance Facility in the vicinity of White River Junction, VT, if the Army is able to acquire land suitable for the construction of the facilities. The new AFRC and OMS shall have the capability to accommodate units from the following facilities: Vermont Army National Guard Armories in Ludlow, North Springfield and Windsor, VT, if the state decides to relocate those National Guard units.

Close Army Reserve Center, Courcelle Brothers and associated Organizational Maintenance Shop, Rutland, VT; close Army Reserve Army Maintenance Support Activity, Rutland, VT, and relocate all units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center and Organizational Maintenance Facility in the vicinity of Rutland, VT, if the Army is able to acquire land suitable for the construction of the facilities. The new AFRC and Maintenance Activity shall have the ability to accommodate units from the following facility: Vermont Army National Guard Armory Rutland, VT, if the state decides to relocate those National Guard units.

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION**

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This recommendation transforms Reserve Component facilities throughout the State of Vermont. The implementation of this recommendation will enhance military value, improve homeland defense capability, greatly improve training and deployment capability, create significant efficiencies and cost savings, and is consistent with the Army's force structure plans and Army transformational objectives.

This recommendation is the result of a state-wide analysis of Reserve Component installations and facilities conducted by a team of functional experts from Headquarters, Department of the Army, the Office of the State Adjutant General, and the Army Reserve Regional Readiness Command.

The recommendation closes four US Army Reserve Centers, one Area Maintenance Support Activity and two Organizational Maintenance Shops throughout the State of Vermont and constructs two Armed Forces Reserve Centers and collocated Organizational Maintenance facilities capable of accommodating National Guard and Reserve units. This recommendation reduces military manpower and associated costs for maintaining existing facilities by collapsing eleven geographically separated facilities into two modern Armed Forces Reserve Centers with maintenance facilities. These new facilities will significantly reduce operating costs and create improved business practices. The Department understands that the State of Vermont will close four Vermont Army National Guard Centers: Ludlow, North Springfield, Windsor and Rutland, VT. The Armed Forces Reserve Centers will have the capability to accommodate these units if the state decides to relocate the units from these closed facilities into the new AFRCs.

This recommendation provides the opportunity for other Local, State, or Federal organizations to partner with the Reserve Components to enhance homeland security and homeland defense at a reduced cost to those agencies.

Although not captured in the COBRA analysis, this recommendation avoids an estimated \$30.1M in mission facility renovation costs and procurement avoidances associated with meeting AT/FP construction standards and altering existing facilities to meet unit training and communications requirements. Consideration of these avoided costs would reduce costs and increase the net savings to the Department of Defense in the 6-year BRAC implementation period and in the 20-year period used to calculate NPV.

## **COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

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There were no formal expressions from the community.

## **COMMISSION FINDINGS**

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The Commission found no reason to disagree with the recommendation of the Secretary of Defense. In addition, the Commission notes that the Army's process was well thought-out and inclusive of the leadership of the Reserve Components and the State.

## **COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The Commission found the Secretary's recommendation consistent with the final selection criteria and force structure plan. Therefore, the Commission approved the recommendation of the Secretary.