

August 17, 2012

The Honorable Rob Wittman
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
4904-B George Washington Memorial Highway
Yorktown, Virginia 23692

Dear Representative Wittman:

Thank you for your recent correspondence on behalf of Ms. Elaine M. Arrieta, owner of Arrieta Construction, Inc., regarding her application to participate in the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 8(a) Business Development (BD) Program.

On May 15, 2012, SBA advised Ms. Arrieta of the initial decline of her application. As a result, she submitted a reconsideration request on June 28, 2012. After reviewing her request, on July 13, 2012, SBA declined the reconsideration in accordance with Title 13 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 124. Ms. Arrieta's firm did not overcome the original reasons for the initial decline. Based on the information submitted, SBA determined that business relationships existed with nondisadvantaged individuals or entities which caused such dependence that the applicant or participant could not exercise independent business judgment without great economic risk. Also, SBA determined that Ms. Arrieta's firm does not have the potential to successfully meet the business development objectives of the 8(a) Program. If Ms. Arrieta believes that her firm experienced unfair regulatory enforcement or compliance she may contact SBA's Office of the National Ombudsman as noted in the reconsideration decline.

We appreciate your continued support of the SBA and the Virginia small business community. If you and your staff have any questions, please contact the SBA Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs at (202) 205-6700.

Sincerely,

Darryl K. Hairston
Associate Administrator
Office of Business Development