



August 17, 2010

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Use of Project Labor Agreements for Federal Construction of Projects (Per Executive Order 13502)

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), I respectfully request you to remind both the public and all members of your Administration that your executive order on project labor agreements (dated February 6, 2009) permits federal contracting agencies to require such agreements only where, *inter alia*, they “will (i) advance the Federal Government's interest in achieving economy and efficiency in Federal procurement . . . and (ii) be consistent with law.”

In accordance with your Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government (dated January 21, 2009), I would also encourage you to make a clear and public statement that neither your staff nor your political appointees will privately exert any political or other pressure on the federal contracting agencies to require project labor agreements where your standards are not met.

AGC remains opposed to all government mandates for such agreements, and believes that the men and women who actually commit their companies to construct federal projects are in the best position to determine whether, and if so, when a project labor agreement would be advantageous. It is, however, manifest that even your Administration intends to limit such mandates to those situations where they would clearly serve the taxpayers' interest in maximizing the return on their investment in federal infrastructure.

To dispel any misconceptions, and recognizing that every Administration needs to repaint the line between politics and procurement, AGC respectfully calls upon you to underscore both the letter and the spirit of your executive order on project labor agreements.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephen E. Sandherr
Chief Executive Officer