



ABC WINS CHALLENGE AGAINST MANDATORY FEDERAL PLA IN NEW JERSEY (08/25/2010)

ABC Aug. 25 announced it was successful in having a mandatory project labor agreement (PLA) removed from the bidding process for the construction of an Armed Forces Reserve center in Camden, N. J.

In response to a bid protest filed with the Government Accountability Office by ABC member Wu & Associates, Inc. of Cherry Hill, N. J., with ABC support and representation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers eliminated a solicitation requirement that would have limited the pool of qualified bidders to contractors willing to sign onto a federal construction project covered by a controversial government-mandated project labor agreement.

"Our company and other quality New Jersey businesses deserve a fair opportunity to provide the public with the best construction product at the best price," said Wu and Associates President Kirby Wu, AIA. "The wasteful and discriminatory project labor agreement would have cut competition from qualified merit shop contractors and their skilled employees. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' decision is a real win for all taxpayers, as well as for the people of New Jersey."

"We hope that other federal agencies will heed this example and recognize that discriminatory project labor agreements only result in increased costs, delayed construction and harm to taxpayers," said ABC President and CEO Kirk Pickerel. "ABC will continue to fight any attempt to impose project labor agreements on federal construction projects in violation of competitive bidding laws."

ABC members also can cast their vote to prohibit government-mandated PLAs on federal construction projects via a new website called YouCut. Members and interested parties can either vote [online](#) or by texting YouCut1 to 68398.

The [YouCut website](#), launched May 12 by House Republican Whip Eric Cantor (R-Va.), features a list of projects that would scale back Congressional spending, and invites anyone to vote for the initiative they think should be eliminated.

For more information on PLAs, visit www.TheTruthAboutPLAs.com or www.facebook.com/TheTruthAboutPLAs.