

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT EIS/OEIS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Department of the Navy (DoN) and the Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) announces the availability of the Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) military relocation Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS). The Draft EIS/OEIS analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with relocating Marines from Okinawa, Japan to Guam, constructing visiting Aircraft Carrier berthing facilities, and establishing a U.S. Army Air and Missile Defense Task Force on Guam. The Draft EIS also examines off base mission critical, mission support, and community support infrastructure improvements needed to ensure that Joint Region Marianas can provide expanded direct support of the Department of Defense's strategic mission and operational readiness in the Western Pacific Region.

The Draft EIS/OEIS is available for review at www.guambuildupeis.us and at the following libraries: University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, Government Documents Tan Siu Lin Building, UOG Station, Mangilao, GU 96923; Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library, 254 Martyr Street, Hagåtña, GU 96910; Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, P.O. Box 501092, Saipan, MP 96950; Northern Marianas College Olympio T. Borja Memorial Library, P.O. Box 501250, Saipan, MP 96950; and the Tinian Public Library, P.O. Box 520704, Tinian, MP 96952. In addition, a reading room with copies of the Draft EIS/OEIS for the public to review has been established at Agana Shopping Center. This facility will be open during normal shopping center hours starting from November 21, 2009 to February 17, 2010 so that members of the public can access and review the Draft EIS/OEIS.

The DoN will host public hearings on the islands of Guam, Tinian, and Saipan to receive verbal and written comments on the Draft EIS/OEIS.

The public is encouraged to attend the public hearings, which will be held at the following dates, times, and locations:

Thursday January 7, 2010- Southern High School, Santa Rita, Guam, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm (Open House)
7:00 pm- 9:00 pm (Formal Hearing)

Saturday January 9, 2010- Field House, University of Guam, Mangilao, Guam, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm
(Open House) 3:00 pm-5:00 pm (Formal Hearing)

Monday January 11, 2010- Yigo Gymnasium, Yigo, Guam, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm (Open House)
7:00 pm- 9:00 pm (Formal Hearing)

Tuesday January 12, 2010- Okkodo High School, Dededo, Guam, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm (Open House)
7:00 pm- 9:00 pm (Formal Hearing)

Thursday January 14, 2010- Tinian Elementary School, San Jose, Tinian 5:00 pm-7:00 pm (Open House)
7:00 pm- 9:00 pm (Formal Hearing)

Friday January 15, 2010- Multi Purpose Center, Susupe, Saipan 5:00 pm-7:00 pm (Open House)
7:00 pm- 9:00 pm (Formal Hearing)

An open house will take place during the first two hours of each hearing, followed by a two-hour formal public hearing. Informational posters will be displayed and subject matter experts will be available during the open house to discuss the findings of the Draft EIS/OEIS and to answer questions from the public.

Oral and/or written comments may be submitted at the public hearings. Translators will be available. Interested agencies, individuals, and groups unable to attend the public hearings are encouraged to provide written comments postmarked no later than February 17, 2010.

**Mail comments to: JGPO c/o NAVFAC Pacific
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860-3134
Attention: GPMO**

A web-based comment form can also be submitted at www.guambuildupeis.us.

Federal agencies, government of Guam agencies, government of CNMI agencies, the public, and other interested parties are encouraged to provide oral and/or written comments for consideration in the Final EIS/OEIS. DoN and JGPO will consider all comments received as they develop the Final EIS/OEIS.