

Public Notification

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Air Force Civil Engineering Center (AFCEC) announces the availability of the *Long Range Strike Weapon Systems Evaluation Program (WSEP) Draft Environmental Assessment/Overseas Environmental Assessment (EA/OEA)*, and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), for public review.

The Proposed Action involves the use of the northern portion of the Navy's Barking Sands Underwater Range Extension (BSURE) area at the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) for missions involving aircraft flight operations and weapon releases. Long Range Strike WSEP missions consist of releasing live (explosive) and inert (non-explosive) weapons from aircraft in military controlled airspace within the PMRF. Mission aircraft would come from multiple military installations across the U.S. while some support aircraft would depart from Kauai and transit to the offshore mission area. The proposed weapon impact point is approximately 44 nautical miles from the coast of Kauai on the water surface within the BSURE area. The Proposed Action would release nine live weapons in 2016 and a maximum of 110 weapons annually from 2017-2021. Missions proposed for 2016 would occur on one day (with one weather back-up day) and would last up to four hours. All live weapons released in 2016 would detonate on the water surface. Follow-on annual missions planned for 2017 through 2021 would be conducted over five consecutive days, lasting up to four hours per day, during the summer. These missions would involve a combination of live and inert weapon releases at the same impact location. Up to 106 live weapon releases are proposed annually for 2017-2021 missions, and weapons would detonate either on the water surface or approximately 10-feet below the water surface.

Your comments on this Draft EA/OEA are requested to support the Air Force in understanding public concerns in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. Any personal information provided to the Air Force in submitting comments will only be used to identify your desire to make a statement during the public comment period or to fulfill requests for copies of the Final EA/OEA or associated documents. Personal home addresses and phone numbers will not be published in the Final EA/OEA.

Copies of the Draft EA/OEA and Draft FONSI may be reviewed online at www.afcec.af.mil. The public comment period for the Draft EA/OEA will last for 30 days from 27 July, 2016 until 26 August, 2016.

For more information or to comment on these proposed actions, contact: AFCEC Public Affairs, 2261 Hughes Ave., JBSA Lackland, Texas 78236, Tel: 1-866-725-7617; Comm: (210) 925-0956, or email: afcec.czn.nepacenter@us.af.mil.