

Appendix B

Cooperating Agency Requests and Replies

1. Cooperating Agency Requests
2. Cooperating Agency Replies
 - a. NOAA Response to Cooperating Agency Request (April 18, 2007)
 - b. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service Response to Cooperating Agency Request (July 20, 2007)
 - c. DOI FWS Response to Cooperating Agency Request (July 3, 2007)
 - d. FWS Response to Cooperating Agency Request (May 16, 2007)
 - e. FHWA Response to Cooperating Agency Request (May 7 2007)
 - f. FAA Response to Cooperating Agency Request (April 13, 2007)
 - g. USEPA Request to be a Cooperating Agency (May 21, 2007)
 - h. Navy Response to USEPA Request to be a Cooperating Agency (June 12, 2007)
 - i. USEPA Response to Cooperating Agency Request (December 18, 2008)
 - j. USDA Response to Cooperating Agency Request (July 6, 2007)
 - k. OIA Response to Cooperating Agency Request (October 2, 2007)
 - l. Army Response to Cooperating Agency Request (July 11, 2007)
 - m. Army Response to Cooperating Agency Request (April 11, 2007)
 - n. Air Force Response to Cooperating Agency Request (Jun 14, 2007)

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Appendix B – Cooperating Agencies

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Appendix B – Cooperating Agency Requests

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COOPERATING AGENCY REQUESTS

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Department of Transportation (DOT):

- Federal Highways Administration (FHWA)
- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 9

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services

U.S. Office of Insular Affairs

U.S. Army

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

U.S. Air Force

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Appendix B – Cooperating Agency Replies

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
PROGRAM PLANNING AND INTEGRATION
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Major General David F. Bice
Executive Director, JGPO
Department of the Navy
Office of the Assistant Secretary
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

APR 18 2007

Dear General Bice:

Thank you for your letter to Under Secretary Lautenbacher regarding the Joint Guam Program Office's (JGPO) invitation to be a cooperating agency on JGPO's environmental impact statement (EIS) for relocating U.S. Marine Corps forces to Guam. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) believes close coordination with JGPO is necessary for this proposed action and is interested in discussing this matter further to ensure an efficient and coordinated environmental review process is established. NOAA has expertise in a range of areas potentially applicable to JGPO's EIS, including NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) jurisdiction by law and special expertise in conserving fisheries and their habitats, and in protecting endangered/threatened species and marine mammals. Furthermore, NOAA's National Ocean Service (NOS) has special expertise in coastal management, managing marine sanctuaries, coral reef conservation, and marine navigation.

We appreciate JGPO's identification of recommended NOAA responsibilities. Consistent with the Council on Environmental Quality's cooperating agency guidance (January 30, 2002), we would like to discuss JGPO's proposed responsibilities for NOAA and the considerations for a more formal agreement (e.g., Memorandum of Agreement) documenting the expectations, roles, and responsibilities agreeable to both parties. Additional discussion on the specifics of the proposed action and expectations of NOAA and JGPO/Department of the Navy will help to better inform NOAA of its potential contribution during the NEPA process and allow NOAA to decide whether to be a cooperating agency under NEPA.

To further future discussions on this matter, I have asked Mr. Steve Kokkinakis in NOAA's Office of Program Planning and Integration to be the primary point of contact regarding NEPA coordination at NOAA. Mr. Kokkinakis can be reached at (301) 713-1622 ext.189, or steve.kokkinakis@noaa.gov.

We appreciate JGPO's invitation to be a cooperating agency on this important project, and we look forward to working with you to define NOAA's involvement and responsibilities.

Sincerely,

Rodney F. Weiher, Ph.D.
NOAA NEPA Coordinator
Office of Program Planning and Integration



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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Pacific West Region
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700
Oakland, California 94607-4807



IN REPLY REFER TO:

A3615(PWR-C)

JUL 20 2007

Commander Scott Hinton
Joint Guam Program Office
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Dear Commander Hinton:

Thank you for your letter to Director Mary Bomar inviting the National Park Service (NPS) to serve as a cooperating agency for the development of the Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement, for the Relocation of U.S. Marine Corps Forces to Guam, Enhancement of Infrastructure and Logistic Capabilities, Improvement of Pier/Waterfront Infrastructure Transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier Berthing, and Army Ballistic Missile Defense Task Force in Guam (EIS/OEIS) in accordance with 40 CFR Part 1501 and the Council on Environmental Quality Cooperating Agency guidance issued on January 20, 2002.

The NPS agrees that continued cooperation between our agencies is critical to the successful evaluation of the potential effects of the proposed action as described in the Notice of Intent (Federal Register, March 7, 2007, pages 10186-10189). While the NPS sees merit in strengthening our cooperative relationship through formal cooperating agency status, we require additional information before formally accepting your invitation.

First, it is assumed that the support requested from the NPS in your March 7, 2007, letter is simply a starting point for discussion between our agencies. Given the broad scope of your proposal, the NPS would like to assess whether our agency will have the resources to serve as a cooperating agency in a meaningful way. In order to make this determination the NPS will require a better understanding of the schedule the Department of Defense (DOD) proposes for the analysis as well as the level at which the analysis will be conducted. The NPS will also require an idea of the type and scope of any studies the DOD foresees the NPS participating in as a partner. Finally, the NPS would like to understand the level of participation our agency will have in the planning process.

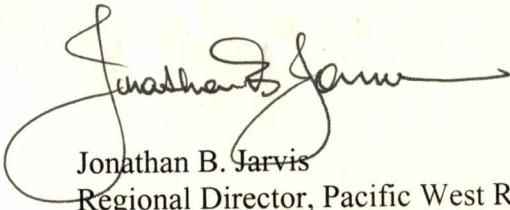
The proposed relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps Forces has the potential to bring many changes to the islands of Guam and the Northern Marianas. The NPS looks forward to cooperating with the DOD to ensure that the resources at War in the Pacific National Historical

TAKE PRIDE[®]
IN AMERICA 

Park on Guam and American Memorial Park on Saipan are protected and that park visitors will continue to enjoy quality experiences in the future.

Thank you for requesting that the NPS serve as a cooperating agency during the upcoming EIS/OEIS process. We look forward to discussing our participation with you further. As the preparation of the EIS continues, please contact Ms. Sarah Creachbaum, Superintendent, War in the Pacific National Historical Park (671-477-7278, ext 1003) if you need clarification on any of these comments or desire further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan B. Jarvis", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jonathan B. Jarvis
Regional Director, Pacific West Region



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

911 NE. 11th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97232-4181

IN REPLY REFER TO:

JUL - 3 2007

FWS/R1/AES/HC/031394

Commander Scott Hinton
Department of the Navy
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Installations and Environment
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Dear Commander Hinton:

Director Dale Hall has asked us to respond to Mr. Bice's letter of May 17, 2007. Thank you for inviting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to participate as a formal cooperating agency in the development of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas EIS (OEIS) to support decisions by the U.S. Navy concerning relocation of the U.S. Marines Corps forces to Guam. This action includes enhancement of the infrastructure and logistic capabilities, improvement of pier/waterfront infrastructure for transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier at Naval Base Guam, and placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense task force in Guam. Due to funding and personnel constraints, we decline the offer to be a formal cooperating agency pursuant to the Council of Environmental Quality Guidance. However, due to the scale, scope, and potential resource impacts in the Mariana Islands that could result from this project, the Service recognizes the importance of working in partnership with the Navy and we plan to coordinate with you consistent with our ability to do so. Open communication between Navy and Service staff on threatened and endangered species, coral reef, and brown tree snake issues are essential early in the planning process. My staff has been briefed on the project, and we have reviewed the Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS/OEIS. We will continue to coordinate with the Navy and do what we can to assist with the project's timely completion.

If you have any questions regarding fish and wildlife resources in relation to this project, please do not hesitate to contact our Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office in Honolulu, Hawaii; specific issues can best be addressed by our Environmental Review Coordinator, Michael Molina, at (808) 792-9440 or Fish and Wildlife Biologist Dwayne Minton at (808) 792-9445.

Sincerely,

Acting

Regional Director

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IN AMERICA** 

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United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office
300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 3-122, Box 50088
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850

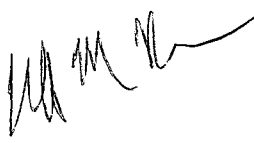
In Reply Refer To:
12200-2008-FA-022

MAY 16 2008

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region 1
Portland, Oregon

Through: Assistant Regional Director, Region 1
Portland, Oregon

From:  Field Supervisor, Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office
Honolulu, Hawaii

Subject: Cooperating Agency Status in the Development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas EIS (OEIS) for Military Build-up in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands

Attached is a draft letter from the Regional Director to the Executive Director of the Joint Guam Program Office responding to the U.S. Navy invitation to participate as a formal cooperating agency in the development of their EIS/OEIS to support decisions concerning relocation of Marine Corps forces to Guam, improvement of infrastructure for a transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier and at the U.S. Naval Base Guam, and placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense task force in Guam. Initially, we declined their invitation due to other program commitments and resource limitations. However, based on the significance of the resource issues associated with the proposed action, we believe we should accept the invitation and cooperate to the extent allowable. We have worked productively with the Joint Guam Program Office over the past several months and anticipate that an appropriate level of support will be made available to us to increase our capacity to participate.

Mr. David F. Bice
Joint Guam Program Office
Office of the Assistant Secretary (IE)
Department of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Dear Mr. Bice:

The invitation to be a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) cooperating agency on the Guam and Mariana Islands Military Build-up Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been a topic of discussion between U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) staff since the second Forward-Basing Partnering Session held in Guam on October 3-4, 2007. We initially declined the invitation due to other program commitments and limited staffing.

Our staffs have continued to discuss the appropriate role for the Service in the development of the EIS, especially in light of the potential aquatic and terrestrial resource impacts that could occur in the Mariana Islands. Based on these discussions, we have reconsidered our position and now wish to accept your invitation to be a cooperating agency.

Our resource and staff limitations, and our existing program commitments (including many related to other Department of Defense activities in Hawaii and elsewhere in the Pacific), remain very real concerns that may preclude us from participating in this project to the degree we would all consider ideal. However, we recognize the value of working closely and early with you, and we are committed to providing the technical assistance we can to support JGPO in this effort.

We look forward to further discussion of how we might work with the Navy to enhance our participation in the Forward Basing Initiative as a cooperating agency. If you have any questions regarding our participation in projected JGPO activities, please contact Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office Field Supervisor, Patrick Leonard, at (808) 792-9400.

Sincerely,

Ren Lohofener
Regional Director

cc: Environmental Director, JGPO



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Hawaii Division
Box 50206
300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 3-306
Honolulu, HI 96850

May 7, 2007

In Reply Refer To:
HAD-HI

Commander Scott Hinton
Office of the Assistant Secretary
(Installations and Environment)
US Department of Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Dear Commander Hinton:

Thank you for your letter dated March 7, 2007 regarding your request for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to serve as a cooperating agency for the development of the EIS/OEIS for the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) forces to Guam, enhancement of infrastructure and logistic capabilities, improvement of pier/waterfront infrastructure for transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier (CVN) at Naval Base Guam, and placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) task force on Guam.

We are pleased to participate as a cooperating agency in accordance with 40 CFR Part 1501 and the Council on Environmental Quality Cooperating Agency guidance issued on January 30, 2002.

We have one concern regarding participating as a cooperating agency. Your letter requests that we support the Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) by participating, as necessary, in meetings hosted by the JGPO for discussion of EIS/OEIS related issues. We will make every effort to attend these meetings. However, we may not be able to attend meetings held in Guam due to our limited travel budget.

We look forward to working with the JGPO and other federal agencies in developing the EIS/OEIS for the USMC relocation to Guam. If you have any questions, please contact myself at (808)541-2700 extension 312 or Richelle Takara at extension 311.

Sincerely yours,

Abraham Wong
Division Administrator



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U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

800 Independence Ave., SW.
Washington, DC 20591

APR 13 2007

Commander Scott Hinton
Office of the Assistant Secretary
(Installations and Environment)
US Department of Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Dear Commander Hinton:

Thank you for your letter of March 7 requesting Federal Aviation Administration participation in the environmental process associated with the Joint Guam Program Office's (JGPO) relocation of US Marine Corps (USMC) forces to Guam.

We are pleased to participate as a cooperating agency in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as Amended, and its implementing regulations. Since the proposal contemplates activities associated with Special Use Airspace (SUA), the FAA will cooperate following the guidelines described in the Memorandum of Understanding between the FAA and the Department of Defense Concerning SUA Environmental Actions, dated October 4, 2005.

The FAA Western Service Area will be the primary environmental focal point for matters related to this proposal. I have forwarded a copy of this letter and your letter to the System Support Group Manager, Mr. Clark Desing. You can contact him directly at (425) 227-1849.

We look forward to working with the Navy on the environmental process for relocating USMC forces to Guam.

Sincerely,

Nancy B. Kalinowski
Director
System Operations Airspace & Aeronautical Information Management
Air Traffic Organization

cc: Western Service Area, System Support

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

May 21, 2007

Major General David F. Bice
Department of Defense
Joint Guam Program Office
2221 S. Clark St. Suite 9000
Arlington, VA 22202

Subject: Request to be a Cooperating Agency for the Environmental Impacts Statement (EIS) for the Relocation of U.S. Marine Corps Forces to Guam, Enhancement of Infrastructure and Logistic Capabilities, Improvement of Pier/Waterfront Infrastructure for Transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier (CVN) at Naval Base Guam, and Placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Task Force in Guam

Dear Major General Bice:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Federal Register Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) for the subject project.

The proposed action is of substantial scale unprecedented on Guam and may present significant challenges for infrastructure and environmental resources. Because EPA has jurisdiction by law, has expertise in environmental issues, and is currently involved in enforcement actions that may affect the project, we request the DON designate EPA as a cooperating agency for this EIS pursuant to 40 CFR 1501.6. We would appreciate the opportunity for early involvement and look forward to working with the DON and JGPO on reducing environmental impacts from this action.

We request a written response to our request to be a cooperating agency on this EIS/OEIS. Please direct your response to the Environmental Review Office at the address above (mail code: CED-2). If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 972-3846 or Karen Vitulano, the lead reviewer for this project, at 415-947-4178 or vitulano.karen@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nova Blazej", written over a horizontal line.

Nova Blazej, Manager
Environmental Review Office

cc: Leighton Wong, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Jeffrey Guss, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Captain Robert Lee, Commander, Navy Region Marianas

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
(INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT)
1000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

June 12, 2007

Ms. Nova Blazej
Manager, Environmental Review Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (CED-2)
Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Dear Ms. Blazej:

Thank you for your letter of May 21, 2007 regarding your request to serve as a Cooperating Agency for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) for the relocation of U.S. Marines Corps Forces to Guam, improvement of pier/waterfront infrastructure for a transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier at Naval Base Guam, and the placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense task force on Guam. In accordance with 40 CFR Part 1501, your request has been accepted.

As a Cooperating Agency, the lead agency, the Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO), requests the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) support JGPO in the following manner:

- Provide comments on working drafts of the EIS/OEIS within 21 calendar days.
- Respond to JGPO requests for information. Timely input will be critical to ensure a successful NEPA process.
- Participation, as necessary, in meetings hosted by the JGPO for discussion of EIS/OEIS related issues.
- Adherence to the overall schedule as set forth by the JGPO.

My point of contact is Commander Scott Hinton, (703) 602-7776, email: scott.hinton@navy.mil. He will be contacting Ms. Karen Vitulano, of your staff to set up an initial meeting between EPA and JGPO. I appreciate your early and enthusiastic involvement and look forward to working with EPA on this substantial and significantly challenging project.

Sincerely,

D. F. Bice
Executive Director, JGPO

Thank you for
your support and
assistance.
D.F. Bice

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

December 18, 2008

Mr. David F. Bice
Department of Defense
Joint Guam Program Office
2221 S. Clark St. Suite 900
Arlington, VA 22202

Subject: EPA's role as a Cooperating Agency for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Relocation of U.S. Marine Corps Forces to Guam, Enhancement of Infrastructure and Logistic Capabilities, Improvement of Pier/Waterfront Infrastructure for Transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier (CVN) at Naval Base Guam, and Placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Task Force in Guam

Dear Mr. Bice:

In May 2007, EPA requested to be a cooperating agency on the subject EIS pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulation 40 CFR 1501.6. The Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) subsequently accepted this request (letter dated June 12, 2007). It is EPA policy that in order to act as a cooperating agency, there must exist some form of written agreement between EPA and the lead agency on the exact function that EPA will have in the preparation of the EIS¹. In the absence of a Memorandum of Understanding², this letter serves to define EPA's role in the preparation of the subject EIS.

As a cooperating agency, EPA intends to:

1. Participate actively in the scoping process. EPA fulfilled this role when we submitted our scoping comments to JGPO on May 21, 2007.
2. Provide early review and comment on select technical studies and reports in areas of EPA jurisdiction and/or expertise, such as drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, aquatic resources, sole source aquifer impacts, air quality, environmental justice, sustainable development, and cumulative impacts, to the extent time/resources allow.
3. Review the Preliminary Draft EIS and Preliminary Final EIS and strive to provide comments to JGPO within 30 days. If these documents are especially voluminous,

¹ EPA Office of Federal Activities Memorandum, Environmental Review Process and Procedures: OFA Guidelines concerning EPA as a Cooperating Agency, Sept. 25, 1986

² EPA staff worked with Navy Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific and JGPO staff in Spring 2008 to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that would have served EPA's need for a written agreement. As of this writing, the MOU has not been finalized.

we may require additional time. Furthermore, our review may be limited to selected sections.

4. Continue to participate in cooperating agency conference calls to the extent time/resources allow.

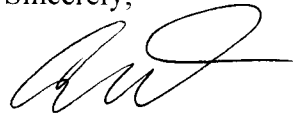
Please also note the following conditions for our involvement:

1. Participation as a cooperating agency does not abridge EPA's independent obligation under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, 42 USC 7609, to review and publicly comment on the environmental impacts of the project and the adequacy of the Draft and Final EIS issued for the Project.
2. Participation as a cooperating agency does not imply EPA's agreement with the lead agency's assessment of significant impacts or mitigation measures.
3. Participation as a cooperating agency does not imply endorsement of the proposed project.
4. EPA's cooperating agency status may be acknowledged in the document; but the EPA seal or symbol will not be used unless JGPO receives prior written approval from EPA, and then only if a disclaimer is attached stating that the use of the Agency seal or symbol on this document does not imply any agency's endorsement of the Project.
5. A copy of this letter will be incorporated into the Draft and Final EIS.

The goal of the cooperating agency collaboration is to generate a thorough, high quality environmental impact assessment containing accurate scientific analysis and expert agency comments. This is in order to help public officials make decisions based on an understanding of environmental consequences, and to take actions that protect, restore and enhance the environment (40 CFR 1500.1(c.)). The magnitude of this project poses significant challenges for infrastructure and environmental resources. The extent to which EPA can assist with these challenges depends on availability of Agency resources and the timeliness of information sharing.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact me at 415-972-3843, or have your staff contact Karen Vitulano, the NEPA contact for the project, at 415-947-4178 or vitulano.karen@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Enrique Manzanilla, Director

Communities and Ecosystems Division

cc: Teresa Bernhard, Joint Guam Program Office
Kyle Fujimoto, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific

08 DEC 29 19 24

RECEIVED



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

JUL - 6 2007

Mr. D. F. Bice
Executive Director, JGPO
(Installations and Environment)
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Department of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Dear Mr. Bice:

Thank you for your letter of May 17, 2007, to Secretary Johanns requesting that our Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's (APHIS) Wildlife Services program serve as a cooperator in the development of an environmental impact statement (EIS) related to the planned expansion of U.S. Navy facilities in Guam. We regret that we did not respond more promptly to your previous correspondence on this matter.

We are pleased to accept your offer to participate in this effort. We believe that our involvement in the preparation of the EIS will help ensure that the best information is made available to both the public and decisionmakers regarding wildlife damage management issues such as the brown tree snake (BTS). As you may know, our Wildlife Services program is currently conducting operations and research to control and prevent new infestations of the invasive BTS from Guam. We would like to offer our expertise to assist the Department of the Defense (DOD) with the development of a BTS risk analysis and an effective mitigation and control plan to prevent the introduction of BTS from Guam to other Pacific Islands—such as other Mariana Islands and Hawaii—and to the U.S. mainland.

As we envision our role in this effort, Wildlife Services officials would participate in meetings that focus on wildlife damage management issues and contribute to the development and writing of pertinent sections of the EIS. In addition, Wildlife Services would review and comment on relevant portions of the EIS and assist with the analysis and response to public comments related to BTS and other wildlife damage management issues. We believe that by offering our cooperation in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and our expertise in carrying out any future control operations, we will help DOD prevent future BTS infestations in new areas.

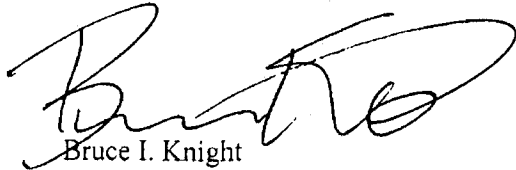
Mr. D. F. Bice

Page 2

To assist us in our planning for this effort, Wildlife Services officials would appreciate receiving a detailed plan from your staff identifying the specific tasks within the NEPA process that relate to Wildlife Services' regulatory authority. The plan should also identify the source of funding for any increase in our activities in support of this effort. We encourage you to contact either Ms. Shannon Herbert or Mr. David Hayes, who are both Environmental Coordinators for Wildlife Services and serve as points of contact on NEPA issues. Ms. Herbert's address is Wildlife Services, APHIS, Department of Agriculture (USDA), Suite A8, 6135 Northeast 80th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97218. Her telephone number is (503) 326-2346. Mr. Hayes' address is Wildlife Services, APHIS, USDA, Post Office Box 1938, Billings, Montana 59103. His telephone number is (406) 657-6109. For operational questions, we encourage you to contact Mr. Dan Vice, the Assistant State Director for Wildlife Services in Guam. His address is Wildlife Services, APHIS, USDA, 233 Pangelinan Way, Barrigada, Guam 96913. His telephone number is (671) 635-4400.

We look forward to working with you—and the officials of all the cooperating agencies—during the development of the EIS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Knight", written over a horizontal line.

Bruce I. Knight
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, D.C. 20240



*Dep
Infrastructure*

October 2, 2007

B
D. F. Bice
Executive Director
Joint Guam Program Office
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Department of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Dear Mr. Bice:

Thank you for your September 18, 2007 letter requesting that the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) become a cooperating agency in the development of an Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) on the Department of Defense's relocation of U.S. forces and infrastructure improvements on Guam.

I thank you for this opportunity to participate and am pleased to accept. I hope that the expertise OIA has to offer will benefit the EIS/OEIS process.

My point of contact for this project is Jonathan Dunn. He can be reached at (202) 208-6971 or at jonathan_dunn@ios.doi.gov.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in the future.

Sincerely,

Nikolao I. Pula
Director
Office of Insular Affairs

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT
110 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0110
11 JUL 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT), EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOINT GUAM PROGRAM OFFICE

SUBJECT: Request to serve as Cooperating Agency

The Army has considered and decided to decline your request of June 5, 2007 (Enclosure 1) to serve as a cooperating agency with the Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS). It is the Army's belief that its initial planning assumption for the permanent stationing of a Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Task Force consisting of some 1,580 Soldiers and Family members was premature and we do not believe it is appropriate for consideration as an element of the proposed action. Rather, it represents a potential future action that at this stage should be addressed programmatically in the EIS/OEIS. Please use the planning information transmitted to you by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Housing) on 8 and 24 January, 2007 (Enclosures 2 and 3) as the basis for the programmatic evaluations.

The Army Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (ACSIM) has been requested to assign a project point of contact (POC) from the Army Environmental Command to address the informational details required for preparation of the EIS/OEIS. The POC will serve as the liaison for future meetings and required reviews of EIS/OEIS documents.

My point of contact is Richard Murphy, (703) 697-5433, email richard.murphy@hqda.army.mil.

Sincerely,

David M. Reed
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Installations and Housing)
OASA(I&E)

3 Enclosures

cf (w/encl):
Assistant Chief of Staff G3/5/7 (ATTN: DAMO-FD)
US Army Corps of Engineers (ATTN: CEMP)
Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management

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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

Regulatory Branch
Engineering & Construction Branch

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, HONOLULU
FORT SHAFTER, HAWAII 96858-5440

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Mr. D. F. Bice, Executive Director
Joint Guam Program Office
Office of the Assistant Secretary (Installations and Environment)
Department of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Dear Mr. Bice:

This letter is in response to your March 30, 2007 invitation for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to serve as a cooperating agency in the Joint Guam Program Office's (JGPO) preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) for the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) forces to Guam, enhancement of infrastructure and logistic capabilities, improvement of pier/waterfront infrastructure for transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier (CVN) at Naval Base, Guam, and placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) task force in Guam. As a Federal agency with jurisdiction by law, the USACE appreciates your efforts to seek our early involvement and obtain our technical input regarding aquatic resources. Accordingly, the USACE is pleased to serve the JGPO as a cooperating agency in the EIS/OEIS process.

A copy of this correspondence will be sent to the Joint Guam Program Office, Attn: EV2, 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860-3134 and Mr. Francis Dayton, Guam Regulatory Field Office, PSC 455, Box 188, FPO AP 96540-1088. Should you have any questions, my point of contact for this project is Mr. George P. Young, Chief, Regulatory Branch, (808) 438-9258. My liaison on Guam is Mr. Francis M. Dayton, (671) 339-2108.

Sincerely,

CHARLES H. KLINGE
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
Commanding

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

JUN 14 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JOINT GUAM PROGRAM OFFICE

FROM: HQ SAF/IEE
1665 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1665

SUBJECT: Cooperating Agency Request - Guam

The Air Force accepts your invitation to participate as a cooperating agency in preparation of your Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and overseas EIS (OEIS) in support of Department of Defense decisions at or near the island of Guam, as prescribed in the President's Council on Environmental Quality National Environmental Policy Act Regulations, 40 CFR §1501.6, Cooperating Agencies.

As a cooperating agency, the Air Force understands it will be expected to participate in various portions of the EIS/OEIS development and to the extent practicable, will:

- Provide comments on working drafts of the EIS/OEIS within 21 calendar days;
- Provide timely responses for request for information,
- Make Air Force staff available for interdisciplinary reviews and participate in JGPO hosted meetings, and
- Adhere to the overall EIS/OEIS schedule developed by the JGPO.

The Air Force asks that it be provided appropriate, related information in a timely fashion to ensure the Air Force can respond in a proactive manner and avoid unnecessary delays. Should you or your staff have further questions regarding this memo, our points of contact for this action are Mr. Jack Bush (HQ USAF/A7CI), 703-604-5264, and Mr. Robert Leong (HQ PACAF/A7NQ), DSN: 808-449-6536.

KEVIN W. BILLINGS
Deputy Assistant Secretary
(Environment, Safety, and
Occupational Health)

cc:
AF/A7C/A8P
PACAF/A7



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
(INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT)
1000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

June 05, 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT)

SUBJECT: Request to serve as a Cooperating Agency

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to support decisions by the Department of Defense (DoD). The Proposed Action being assessed includes the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) forces to Guam, enhancement of infrastructure and logistic capabilities, improvement of pier/waterfront infrastructure for transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier (CVN) at Naval Base Guam, and placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) task force in Guam. In order to adequately evaluate the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Action, the JGPO and the Department of the Air Force need to work together. To assist in this effort and in accordance with 40 CFR Part 1501 and the Council on Environmental Quality Cooperating Agency guidance issued on (January 30, 2002), the JGPO requests the Department of the Air Force to serve as a cooperating agency for the development of the EIS/OEIS. For your convenience and reference, enclosed is a copy of the Notice of Intent.

The Proposed Action would relocate an Air Combat Element (ACE), Command Element (CE), Ground Combat Element (GCE), and Combat Service Support Element (CSSE) of the U.S. Marines to Guam, provide enhanced CVN transient operational capability and logistics support at Guam Naval Base, and for defense, locate a U.S. Army BMD task force on Guam. The Proposed Action includes rehabilitation or construction of operational facilities, support facilities (such as housing), and training areas on Guam and other locations within the Mariana Islands.

Reasonable alternative configurations within Guam and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) will be considered to accommodate the operations, training, and infrastructure requirements associated with the proposed relocation of service and family members, the enhancement of CVN transient operational capabilities, and the siting of a U.S. Army BMD task force with its service and family members. In compliance with NEPA, the JGPO will also analyze and consider the No Action alternative.

The purpose and need of the Proposed Action is to fulfill U.S. government national security and alliance requirements in the Western Pacific Region. Guam's location as the westernmost part of the United States is critical to national security. The DoD national security strategy would increase the role of Guam and the CNMI through the relocation of Marines to Guam, increased presence of a transient CVN, and enhanced capability to defend critical military assets.

Impacts and issues to be addressed in the EIS/OEIS include, but are not limited to, the following resource areas: coral reefs, marine and terrestrial natural resources, including threatened and endangered species, water quality, noise, land use, airspace management, fishing, navigation, recreation, historical and cultural resources, utilities, and socioeconomics. The EIS/OEIS will include an evaluation of the project's direct, indirect, short-term, long term, and cumulative impacts.

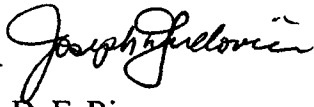
As the lead agency, the JGPO will be responsible for overseeing preparation of the EIS/OEIS. Those responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Gathering all necessary background information and preparing the EIS/OEIS with all necessary permit applications.
- Determining the scope of the EIS/OEIS, including the alternatives evaluated.
- Circulating the appropriate NEPA documentation to the general public and any other interested parties.
- Scheduling and supervising meetings held in support of the NEPA process, including compiling any comments.
- Maintaining an administrative record and responding to any Freedom of Information Act requests relating to the EIS/OEIS.

As the cooperating agency, the JGPO requests the Department of the Air Force support the JGPO in the following manner:

- Provide comments on working drafts of the EIS/OEIS within 21 calendar days.
- Respond to JGPO requests for information. Timely input will be critical to ensure a successful NEPA process.
- Participation, as necessary, in meetings hosted by the JGPO for discussion of EIS/OEIS related issues.
- Adherence to the overall schedule as set forth by the JGPO.
- A formal, written response to this request within 30 days indicating your point of contact.

My point of contact for this project is Commander Scott Hinton, (703) 602-7776,
email: scott.hinton@navy.mil

for 

D. F. Bice
Executive Director, JGPO

Attachments:
As stated

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) for the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps forces to Guam, enhancement of infrastructure and logistic capabilities, improvement of pier/waterfront infrastructure for transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier (CVN) at Naval Base Guam, and placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) task force in Guam

Agency: Department of the Navy, DoD.

Action: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy of 1969, as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500 - 1508), and Executive Order 12114, the Department of the Navy (DON) announces its intent to prepare an EIS/OEIS to

evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with relocating Command, Air, Ground, and Logistics units (which includes approximately 8,000 service members and 9,000 family members) from Okinawa, Japan to Guam. The EIS/OEIS will examine potential impacts from activities associated with the Marine Corps units' relocation to include operations, training, and infrastructure changes.

DON also proposes to enhance the infrastructure, logistic capabilities, and improve pier/waterfront facilities to support transient CVN berthing at Naval Base Guam. The EIS/OEIS will examine potential impacts of the waterfront improvements associated with the proposed transient berthing.

Finally, the proposed action will evaluate placing a BMD task force (approximately 630 service members and 950 family members) in Guam. The EIS/OEIS will examine potential impacts from activities associated with the task force to include operations, training, and infrastructure changes.

The purpose and need of the proposed action is to fulfill U.S. government national security and alliance

requirements in the Western Pacific Region. Guam's location as the westernmost part of the United States is critical to national security. The Department of Defense (DoD) national security strategy would increase the role of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) through the relocation of Marines to Guam, increased presence of a transient CVN, and enhanced capability to defend critical military assets.

Mission critical, mission support, and community support infrastructure improvements are needed to ensure that Navy Region Marianas can provide expanded direct support of the DoD strategic mission and operational readiness in the Western Pacific Region. Infrastructure improvements would need to provide:

- military training, subsequent garrison, operations, and infrastructure to support the U.S. Marines relocation to Guam.
- port infrastructure for support to the transient presence of a CVN within Apra Harbor.

- infrastructure to support the BMD task force, which can intercept missiles with potential to impact the critical military assets.

The EIS/OEIS will consider reasonable alternatives for siting operational, training, and support facilities on Guam, in addition to the no-action alternative. The DON Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) will seek the input of the public on siting alternatives during the scoping meetings described below.

Seven Federal agencies will be invited to be cooperating agencies: National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration; National Marine Fisheries; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Wildlife Services; Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration; Federal Aviation Administration; and the National Park Service.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: Public scoping meetings will be held on Guam, Saipan, and Tinian to receive oral and/or written comments that should be addressed in the EIS/OEIS. The public scoping open houses will be held at the following dates, times, and locations:

1. Tuesday, April 3, 2007, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., location TBD (Guam, in central business area);

2. Wednesday, April 4, 2007, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., location TBD (Saipan); and

3. Thursday, April 5, 2007, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., location TBD (Tinian).

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 to the DON to identify specific issues or topics for consideration in the EIS/OEIS. The DON will consider comments received in determining the scope of the EIS/OEIS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Captain Robert Lee,
Commander, Navy Region Marianas, PSC 455 Box 152, FPO AP,
Guam 96540, telephone 671-339-6156, E-mail at:
Robert.Lee@guam.navy.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of the Secretary of Defense directed the DON to establish a JGPO to facilitate,

manage, coordinate, and execute certain DoD actions in Guam. The proposed actions for consideration in the announced EIS/OEIS are under the cognizance of the JGPO, the DON action proponent.

Guam is host to the westernmost U.S. military installation on U.S. soil, and is located 2,400 kilometers (1,500 miles) from the Western Pacific Rim. The location of Guam allows for rapid deployment of military units to areas of possible conflict in the Western Pacific Region. The proposed action is required to maintain the DON's capability to accomplish its mission in this critical geographic region in support of the U.S./Japan Alliance and consistent with the DoD Integrated Global Positioning and Basing Strategy and Quadrennial Defense Review.

The proposed action would relocate an Air Combat Element, Command Element, Ground Combat Element, and Command Service Support Element of the U.S. Marines to Guam, provide enhanced CVN transient operational capability and logistics support at Guam Naval Base, and for defense, locate a U.S. Army BMD task force on Guam. The proposed action includes rehabilitation or construction of operational facilities, support facilities (such as

housing), and training areas on Guam and other locations within the Mariana Islands.

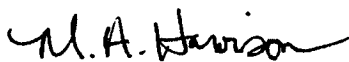
The EIS/OEIS will analyze a range of alternative sites for facilities needed to support the proposed actions. Administrative, housing, training, and operations functions will be evaluated to determine a range of reasonable alternative locations within the Marianas. Reasonable alternatives, including, but not limited to, alternative configurations within Guam and the CNMI, will be considered to accommodate the operations, training, and infrastructure requirements associated with the proposed relocation of service and family members, the enhancement of CVN transient operational capabilities, and the siting of a U.S. Army BMD task force with its service and family members. The EIS/OEIS also will analyze and consider the No Action alternative.

Impacts and issues to be addressed in the EIS/OEIS include, but are not limited to, the following resource areas: coral and coral reefs, marine and terrestrial natural resources, including threatened and endangered species, water quality, noise, land use, airspace management, fishing, navigation, recreation, historical and

cultural resources, utilities, and socioeconomics. The EIS/OEIS will include an evaluation of the project's direct, indirect, short-term, long-term, and cumulative impacts. No decision will be made to implement any alternative until the EIS/OEIS process is completed and a Record of Decision is signed by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment).

The JGPO is initiating the scoping process to identify community concerns and local issues to be addressed in the EIS/OEIS. Federal agencies, state agencies, local agencies, and interested persons are encouraged to provide oral and/or written comments identifying specific issues or topics of environmental concern that should be addressed in the EIS/OEIS. Written comments must be postmarked by May 1, 2007, and should be mailed to: JGPO, 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134, Attention: EV2.

Dated: 28 Feb 07



M. A. HARVISON
Lieutenant Commander,
Judge Advocate General's Corps,
U.S. Navy,
Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[Federal Register: May 4, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 86)]

[Notices]

[Page 25272]

From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Revised Deadline for Scoping Comments for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) for the Relocation of U.S. **Marine Corps Forces to Guam**, Enhancement of Infrastructure and Logistic Capabilities, Improvement of Pier/Waterfront Infrastructure for Transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier (CVN) at Naval Base **Guam**, and Placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Task Force in **Guam**

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Revised Deadline for Scoping Comments for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) for the relocation of U.S. **Marine Corps forces to Guam**, enhancement of infrastructure and logistic capabilities, improvement of pier/waterfront infrastructure for transient U.S. Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier (CVN) at Naval Base **Guam**, and placement of a U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Task Force in **Guam**.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy is revising the deadline for Scoping Comments. The Notice of Intent establishing the original scoping period was published in the Federal Register on March 07, 2007 (Vol. 72, No. 44, p. 10186). The impacts of Typhoon Kong-Rey necessitates extension of the written public scoping comment deadline. The written public scoping comment deadline, originally scheduled for May 01, 2007 is extended until May 21, 2007.

Dates And Addresses: The Department of the Navy will accept written comments on the EIS scope postmarked by May 21, 2007. Comments should be mailed to: JGPO, c/o NAVFAC Pacific, 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134, Attention: EV2.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Captain Robert Lee, Commander, Navy Region Marianas, PSC 455 Box 152, FPO AP, **Guam** 96540, telephone 671-339-6156, E-mail at: Robert.Lee@guam.navy.mil.

Dated: 1 May 2007.

M.A. Harvison,
Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate General's **Corps**, U.S. Navy,
Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. E7-8571 Filed 5-3-07; 8:45 am]

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