

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF EARLY PUBLIC REVIEW FOR A PROPOSED ACTION

IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN AT EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, ALASKA

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

The United States Air Force (USAF) is proposing to implement five installation development projects at Eielson Air Force Base (AFB), Alaska (collectively referred to as the “Proposed Action”), starting in fiscal year 2025. USAF has initiated an Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act to consider potential impacts from implementing the proposed projects at Eielson AFB and is issuing this notice to advise the public of the proposed development at Eielson AFB.

The five projects are consistent with the needs of an active military installation—continuous construction of new facilities and infrastructure, renovation of existing facilities, and demolition of redundant or obsolete facilities. Alternatives for each project were screened based on three universal selection standards. The proposed projects detailed below meet all three universal selection standards as well as project-specific selection standards (as applicable) and are being considered in the EA.

Project 01, Construct Hursey Gate Final Denial Barrier and Road: The purpose of this project is to provide an AVB system FDB in accordance with Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC) 42-22-01 and Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command Transportation Engineering Agency standard criteria by reconfiguring Flight Line Avenue via construction of a two-lane divided road with vehicle channeling curbs outside the airfield clear zone and installation of two final denial barriers (FDB), one on Central Avenue and one on Transmitter Road. The new road would intersect with Transmitter Road.

Project 02, Construct Addition to Coal Thaw Shed: The purpose of this project is to increase coal processing capacity at Eielson AFB by constructing a 5,950-square-foot addition to the north side of the existing Coal Thaw Shed capable of thawing eight railcars (four per rail) and a 2,275-square foot addition to the south side of the existing shed capable of thawing four railcars (20 railcars total); and stabilize the temperature in the shed by de-stratifying the thermal differential via air circulation.

Project 03, Construct New Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex Range Operations Center (JROC): The purpose of this project is to provide a facility to adequately house range operations supporting RED FLAG-Alaska in the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex, including classified spaces in accordance with Intelligence Community Directive 705; Intelligence Community Standard 705-1; technical specifications for Intelligence Community Directive/Intelligence Community Standard 705; and the requirements of UFC 4-010-05. This project entails constructing a new JROC facility consisting of administrative space, building support space, and three different tiers of secure workspace for mission critical activities.

Project 04, Demolish/Rebuild Cryogenics Facility: The purpose of this project is to provide a new base Cryogenics Facility with enough space to operate, maintain, and store 11,000 gallons of liquid oxygen (LOX) and 10,000 gallons of liquid nitrogen (LIN) as prescribed in AFMAN 32-1084. This project entails demolishing the existing Cryogenics Facility and constructing a new

LOX/LIN storage building and an associated administrative building composed of an administrative area and a war readiness material warehouse.

Project 05, Demolish/Rebuild Building 3425: Building 3425, which provides space for five different user groups, was subjected to weather-related damage in 2022, causing the roof to fail. The purpose of this project is to provide usable facilities for the Civil Engineer Squadron, Logistics Readiness Squadron, Munitions Squadron, Maintenance Squadron, and Communications Squadron. This project entails demolishing and rebuilding Building 3425. The two alternatives under consideration are to rebuild the facility in the same footprint or construct multiple facilities for each user group that will be occupying the spaces.

Four of the five proposed projects (Projects 01, 02, 03, and 05) are located within the 100-year floodplain of the Tanana River. USAF would take steps to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health, and welfare, and to preserve floodplain values. USAF would implement erosion and stormwater control best management practices during construction to minimize any disturbance within the floodplain.

This notice is required by Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order 11988, "Floodplain Management," and has been issued in accordance with 32 Code of Federal Regulations Part 989.24(c) and AFMAN 32-7003 for actions proposed in floodplains. As part of the EA process, Eielson AFB will contact state and federal regulatory agencies, such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office, for their input and expertise on the Proposed Action with respect to potential floodplain and other impacts.

USAF requests advance public comment to determine if there are any public concerns regarding the project's potential to impact floodplains. The Proposed Action will be analyzed in the forthcoming EA, which the public will also have opportunity to comment on when the draft is released. Comments regarding floodplain disturbance with respect to this proposal may be submitted by email to: 354fw.pa.publicaffairs@us.af.mil, or by mail to Eielson AFB Public Affairs, 354 Broadway St., Ste 15A, Eielson Air Force Base, AK 99702-2299 (Attn: SrA Kimberly Touchet). The public comment period for floodplain comments ends December 19, 2023. This notice is also available for review at: <https://www.eielson.af.mil/General-Information/Environmental/>.

PRIVACY ADVISORY NOTICE

Public commenting allows USAF to make better, informed decisions. Letters or other written or oral comments provided may be published in the EA. As required by law, comments provided will be addressed in the EA and made available to the public. Providing personal information is voluntary. Any personal information provided will be used only to identify your desire to make a statement during the public comment portion of any public meetings or hearings or to fulfill requests for copies of the EA or associated documents. Private addresses will be compiled to develop a mailing address for those requesting copies of the EA; however, only the names of individuals making comments and the specific comments will be disclosed. Personal home addresses and phone numbers will not be published in the Final EA.