

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE

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Bao-Anh Trinh,

YA-3, DAF, Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Air Force****Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Basing F-35A Operational Aircraft**

AGENCY: United States Air Force, Air Combat Command and Air National Guard.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and Air Force policy and procedures (32 CFR Part 989), the Air Force is issuing this notice to advise the public of its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts of establishing operational F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) aircraft at one or more existing Air Force installations within the continental United States.

The proposed basing alternatives include: Mt. Home AFB, Idaho; Hill AFB, Utah; Burlington Air Guard Station (AGS), Vermont; Shaw AFB/McEntire Joint National Guard Base (JNGB), South Carolina (SC); and Jacksonville AGS, Florida.

Each candidate base is an alternative. For Mt. Home AFB, Hill AFB, and Shaw AFB/McEntire JNGB, the potential environmental impacts will be analyzed for no action and in increments of 24 primary assigned aircraft (PAA). For Burlington AGS and Jacksonville AGS, the potential environmental impacts will be analyzed for no action and in increments of 18 and 24 primary assigned aircraft.

The Air Force version of the F-35 JSF, designated F-35A, is a conventional take-off, multiple-role fighter with an emphasis on air-to-ground missions. The aircraft was designed to supplement and eventually replace legacy aircraft as

well as complement the air-to-air mission of the F-22A Raptor. At any of the alternative locations, the beddown action would involve personnel changes, facility construction and modifications, and aircraft operations.

Scoping: In order to effectively define the full range of issues to be evaluated in the EIS, the Air Force will determine the scope of the EIS (i.e., what will be covered and in what detail) by soliciting scoping comments from interested state and federal agencies and interested members of the public through the **Federal Register** and various media in the local areas of concern. Scoping comments should be submitted to the address below by the date indicated. The Air Force will also hold a series of scoping meetings to further solicit input regarding the scope of the proposed action and alternatives.

DATES: The Air Force intends to hold scoping meetings in the following communities: January 11-14, 2010 Grand View, Twin Falls, Boise, and Mt. Home Idaho; January 19-22, 2010 Ogden, Layton, Callao Utah; Wendover Nevada; January 25-28, 2010 Winooski, Vermont; Littleton, New Hampshire; Watertown, New York; February 1-4, 2010 Sumter, Eastover, and Kingstree, South Carolina; Augusta and Brunswick Georgia; February 8-12 2010 Jacksonville, Avon Park, Lake Wales and Palatka Florida. The scheduled dates, times, locations and addresses for the meetings will be published in local media a minimum of 15 days prior to the scoping meetings. All meetings will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Comments will be accepted at any time during the environmental impact analysis process. However, to ensure the Air Force has sufficient time to consider public input in the preparation of the Draft EIS, comments should be submitted to the address below by March 1, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sheryl Parker, HQ ACC/A7PS, 129 Andrews Street, Suite 337, Langley AFB, VA 23665-2769, telephone 757/764-9334.

Bao-Anh Trinh, YA-3, DAF,

Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Air Force****U.S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board Notice of Meeting**

AGENCY: U.S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, Department of the Air Force, Defense.

ACTION: Meeting Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102-3.150, the Department of Defense announces that the United States Air Force Scientific Advisory Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 12th, 2010, at the SAF/AQ Conference and Innovation Center, 1550 Crystal Dr., Arlington, VA, 22202. The meeting will be from 8 a.m.—5 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to hold the United States Air Force Scientific Advisory Board quarterly meeting to discuss the FY10 Scientific Advisory Board study topics tasked by the Secretary of the Air Force and the results of the Air Force Research Laboratory Assessment.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended, and 41 CFR 102-3.155, the Administrative Assistant of the Air Force, in consultation with the Office of the Air Force General Counsel, has determined in writing that the United States Air Force Scientific Advisory Board meeting will be closed to the public because they will be concerned with classified information and matters covered by sections 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (1) and (4).

Any member of the public wishing to provide input to the United States Air Force Scientific Advisory Board should submit a written statement in accordance with 41 CFR 102-3.140(c) and section 10(a)(3) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the procedures described in this paragraph. Written statements can be submitted to the Designated Federal Officer at the address detailed below at any time. Statements being submitted in response to the agenda mentioned in this notice must be received by the Designated Federal Officer at the address listed below at least five calendar days prior to the meeting which is the subject of this notice. Written statements received after this date may not be provided to or considered by the United States Air Force Scientific Advisory Board until its next meeting. The Designated Federal Officer will review all timely submissions with the United States Air