Public Notice for Review of Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact

DPA Title III Solid Rocket Motor Production Upgrade Program Aerojet Rocketdyne Orange, Virginia

Pursuant to the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Title 42 United States (U.S.) Code (USC) Sections 4321 to 4347, implemented by Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations, Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500-1508, and 32 CFR Part 989, Environmental Impact Analysis Process, the Department of the Air Force (DAF) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in response to a federally funded agreement to increase the production rate of solid rocket motors. This effort is sponsored by the Department of Defense's (DoD) Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy (OASD(IBP)) and is being executed under the Presidential Waiver of Statutory Requirements Pursuant to Section 303 of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, signed on October 3, 2022 utilizing funding through the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act. The funds will be used to build and upgrade 10 facilities at the Aerojet Rocketdyne site in Orange, Virginia. The purpose of the Proposed Action is for the U.S. Government to fund the necessary construction, modernization, and upgrade of the Aerojet Rocketdyne production facilities for Solid Rocket Motors (SRMs). The Proposed Action is needed to increase production capacity, which is critical for national defense, as well as to support our allies across the globe.

The Draft EA evaluates potential impacts on the environment from the Proposed Action and announces its availability for public review. Based on analysis contained in the Draft EA, no significant adverse impacts are anticipated as a result of the Proposed Action. Accordingly, the DAF has prepared a proposed Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to document the findings of the Draft EA.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

January 23, 2025, through February 22, 2025

During the public review period, the Draft EA and Draft FONSI are available for review online at (https://www.afrl.af.mil/Environmental). Hard copies of the Draft EA and Draft FONSI are also available at the following local library:

Orange County Library 146 N Madison Road #A, Orange, VA 22960 (540) 672-3811

The DAF invites public input and comment on these documents for a period 30 days from the publication of this notice. Comments or inquiries may be sent via email or letter postmarked by February 22, 2025, and should be submitted to:

Air Force Research Laboratory Public Affairs 1864 4th Street Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH 45433

Phone: 937-469-1728

E-mail: bryan.ripple@us.af.mil