

Dated: September 8, 2003.

**Susan K. Brown,**

*Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division.*

[FR Doc. 03-23245 Filed 9-11-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Air Force

#### Availability of the Record of Decision for the Los Angeles Air Force Base Land Conveyance and Development Project

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Los Angeles Air Force Base Land Conveyance, Construction and Development Project, Transfer Portions of Private Development in Exchange for Construction of New Seismically Stable Facilities, Cities of El Segundo and Hawthorne, Los Angeles County, CA.

**SUMMARY:** The ROD is based on a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) with a notice of availability (NOA) published on July 3, 2003 **Federal Register** (FR): (Volume 68, Number 128) Page 39940) having a waiting period ending August 18, 2003. Due to an error, EPA issued an amended NOA, revising the FR Notice Public on July 3, 2003 stating the CEQ Comment Period previously Ending August 18, 2003 has been Corrected to CEQ Wait Period Ending August 4, 2003 **Federal Register**: July 11, 2003 (Volume 68, Number 133), Page 41338-41339)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jack Bush, Headquarter United States Air Force 703-604-5264, or Jason Taylor, Los Angeles Air Force Base, (310) 363-0142.

**Pamela Fitzgerald,**

*Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-23211 Filed 9-11-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-05-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Air Force

#### HQ USAF Scientific Advisory Board

**AGENCY:** Department of the Air Force, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of the forthcoming meeting of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Panel. The purpose of

the meeting is to brief the Air Staff and the Joint Staff on the results of the study. This meeting will be closed to the public.

**DATES:** 1 October 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** SAFTAS Conference Facility, 4th Floor, 1560 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22209.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Maj Dwight Pavsek, Air Force Scientific Advisory Board Secretariat, 1180 Air Force Pentagon, Rm 5D982, Washington DC 20330-1180, (703) 697-4811.

**Pamela D. Fitzgerald,**

*Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-23210 Filed 9-11-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-5-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Regarding the Proposed Leasing of Lands at Fort Bliss, Texas, for the Proposed Siting, Construction, and Operation by the City of El Paso of a Brackish Water Desalination Plant and Support Facilities

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** This announces the intention of the U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center and Fort Bliss (SUAADACENFB) to prepare an EIS regarding the proposed leasing of lands at Fort Bliss, Texas, for the proposed siting, construction, and operation of a brackish water desalination plant (the "Project") by the City of El Paso, Texas. The purpose of the EIS is to evaluate the environmental impacts associated with the Project.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and requests for information may be forwarded to John F. Barrera, Fort Bliss Directorate of Environment, ATTN: ATZC-DOE-C, B624 Pleasonton Road, Fort Bliss, TX 79916-6812.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Barrera at (915) 568-3908.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Project has the potential to result in effects to the human environment in and around Fort Bliss and the El Paso City and County area. The study area for the environmental analysis is the eastern half of El Paso County, which includes Fort Bliss and most of El Paso City, as well as southern portions of Doña Ana and Otero Counties, New Mexico. The objective of the DEIS is to provide a planning and decision-making tool, serve as a public information

service, and a reference for mitigation tracking.

Alternatives that will be evaluated include locations for the Project and support facilities, desalination methodologies, and disposal options for the brine water resulting from the desalination process.

*Issue of potential significance:* The Hueco Bolson aquifer is a major source of water for Fort Bliss and the El Paso Region. This extensive underground water resource, located in large part under Fort Bliss training lands, contains significant quantities of brackish water. Brackish water is water designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as containing dissolved solids (salts) above the drinking water standards. The Project is proposed for the purpose of extending the life of fresh groundwater supplies by desalinating this brackish water for use by the City of El Paso and Fort Bliss. The Project would help meet existing and projected demands for potable water and extend the life of the Hueco Bolson aquifer.

The EIS will include analyses of environmental impacts from the following: (1) Alternative sites for the desalination plant and support facilities; (2) construction by the City of El Paso of the desalination plant and support facilities on Fort Bliss at one of three proposed locations; (3) alternative methodologies for desalination; (4) alternate methodologies for brine disposal, including reinjection and evaporation; and (5) effects of pumping brackish water out of the Hueco Bolson.

A public meeting in the vicinity of the installation and the general proposed location of the desalination plant will be held to facilitate input to the EIS process by citizens and organizations. The date and time of this meeting will be announced in the general media and will be at a time and location convenient to the public. To ensure comments are fully considered in the Draft EIS, comments and suggestions should be received no later than 15 days following the meeting. Comments and questions may also be e-mailed to [desaleis@bliss.army.mil](mailto:desaleis@bliss.army.mil). Additional information may also be obtained at the following web site: [www.bliss.army.mil](http://www.bliss.army.mil).

Dated: September 5, 2003.

**Raymond J. Fatz,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health) OASA(I&E).*

[FR Doc. 03-23243 Filed 9-11-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3710-08-M**