

## DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER CENTER JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO LACKLAND TEXAS

July 31, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR Federal, State, and Local Public Agencies
Federally Recognized Tribes
Interested Parties
Members of the Public

Libraries

FROM: Christopher Moore, DAF

Air Force Civil Engineer Center

National Environmental Policy Act Division (AFCEC/CIE)

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Expansion of the Foreign Military Sales F-35 Pilot Training Center (PTC) at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Arkansas

## Notice of Draft EIS Availability, Public Comment Period, and Public Hearings

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is issuing this notice to inform the public of the availability of the *Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Expansion of the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) F-35 Pilot Training Center (PTC) at Ebbing Air National Guard (ANG) Base, Arkansas.* The Draft SEIS evaluates the potential environmental effects of the DAF's proposal to expand the FMS PTC at Ebbing ANG Base, where the ANG is a tenant at Fort Smith Regional Airport (FSRA). The proposal includes infrastructure construction, demolition, and renovation activities; additional personnel to support the FMS PTC mission; and changes in aircraft operations at Ebbing ANG Base/FSRA and corresponding airspace units.

The DAF prepared the SEIS in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. The DAF is publishing a Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register* on August 8, 2025, to announce the availability of the Draft SEIS and to initiate a 48-day public comment period that will end on September 24, 2025.

A copy of the Draft SEIS is posted on the project website at <a href="https://www.fmsptceis.com/">https://www.fmsptceis.com/</a> and hard copies are available at the following repositories near Ebbing ANG Base:

- Van Buren Public Library, 1409 Main Street, Van Buren, AR 72956
- Fort Smith Public Library (Main Branch), 3201 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72903
- Fort Smith Public Library (Dallas Street Branch), 8100 Dallas Street, Fort Smith, AR 72903
- Fort Smith Public Library (Miller Branch), 8701 S. 28th Street, Fort Smith, AR 72908
- Fort Smith Public Library (Windsor Drive Branch), 4701 Windsor Drive, Fort Smith, AR 72904

NOTE: Libraries are requested to maintain hard copies and CDs onsite in an area easily accessible to the public until the close of business on September 24, 2025.

This notice also serves to inform the public that the DAF intends to hold the following two public hearings on the following dates:

## One virtual public hearing will be held on the following date and time:

• Thursday, September 4, 2025, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. CT

To register to participate in a **virtual** public hearing, visit <a href="https://www.fmsptceis.com/">https://www.fmsptceis.com/</a>. Meeting links and instructions will be distributed after registering and prior to the virtual public hearing. The virtual public hearing can be accessed by phone at 1 (888) 788-0099, Webinar ID: 886 2955 7361, Passcode: 048921.

## One in-person public hearing is scheduled for the following date, time and location:

• Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. CT, at the Fort Smith Convention Center, Exhibit Hall A, 55 S. 7th Street, Fort Smith, AR

The purpose of the hearings and the public comment period is to solicit input regarding the results of the analysis presented in the Draft SEIS. The 48-day public comment period will be conducted in compliance with NEPA and Section 106 consultation pursuant to Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Section 800.2(d). The DAF is requesting the public to provide substantive comments which identify potential alternatives, information, and analyses relevant to the Proposed Action. To ensure DAF has sufficient time to consider public comments during preparation of the Final SEIS, please submit comments within the 48-day public comment period, which will end on September 24, 2025. Comments on the Draft SEIS may be submitted to the DAF at the planned public hearings, via the public website (https://www.fmsptceis.com/), or mailed to the following address: Department of the Air Force, c/o Leidos, Attn: Ebbing SEIS, 12304 Morganton Hwy #38, Morganton, GA 30560.

Additional information on the FMS PTC SEIS and the environmental impact analysis process can be found on the project website at <a href="https://www.fmsptceis.com/">https://www.fmsptceis.com/</a>. For other inquiries, please contact Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs at <a href="https://www.fmsptceis.com/">AETC.PAO@us.af.mil</a> or (210) 652-9324.

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