

The United States Air Force (Air Force) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental consequences of establishing operational F-35A aircraft at one or more Air Force and/or Air National Guard installations across the U.S. The potential basing locations include: Mountain Home Air Force Base (AFB), Idaho; Hill AFB, Utah; Burlington Air Guard Station (AGS) Vermont; Shaw AFB/McEntire Joint National Guard Base (JNGB), South Carolina; and Jacksonville AGS, Florida. For Mountain Home AFB, Hill AFB, and Shaw AFB the potential environmental impacts will be analyzed for no action and for scenarios of 24 primary assigned aircraft, 48 primary assigned aircraft, and 72 primary assigned aircraft. For Burlington AGS, McEntire JNGB, and Jacksonville AGS, the potential environmental impacts will be analyzed for no action and scenarios of 18 and 24 primary assigned aircraft. At any of the alternative locations, the basing action would involve basing F-35A aircraft, personnel changes, facility construction and modifications, and aircraft training operations.

The Air Force is holding scoping meetings to help identify community concerns with respect to this proposed action and alternatives. Meetings will be held in an open house format with Air Force representatives available to answer questions and address specific questions about the F-35A and proposed action; no formal presentations will be given. Therefore, please attend any meeting **at your convenience between 6 and 8 p.m.** Meetings will be held on the following dates at the locations indicated below:

Monday, Jan. 25, 2010 O'Brien Community Center, 32 Malletts Bay Ave., Winooski, VT
Tuesday, Jan 26, 2010 Littleton High School, Cafeteria, 159 Oak Hill Ave., Littleton, NH
Thursday, Jan 28, 2010 Jefferson Community College, Room 6-218, 1220 Coffeen St.,
Watertown, NY

If you are unable to attend, please visit our Web site starting Jan 19, 2010 at: www.airforcef-35opseis.com to download copies of the meeting materials. Please submit all comments in writing to the address indicated below by Mar 1, 2010 to ensure proper consideration in the EIS analyses: HQ ACC/A7PS, 129 Andrews St., Suite 337, Langley AFB VA 23665-2769, Attn: Ms. Sheryl Parker, F-35A Ops EIS Project Manager.

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