



# United States Air Force F-35A Operational Beddown - Air National Guard Environmental Impact Statement

## Fact Sheet #2 - Public Meeting Summary

### Fact Sheets

#### ▶ Previous Fact Sheets:

- Fact Sheet #1 – Included a review of the proposed action, public meetings schedule, and link to the project website

#### ▶ Future Fact Sheets:

- #3 – Announcing Public DEIS and Public Meeting
- #4 – DEIS Public Meeting Summary
- #5 – Announcing the Final EIS
- #6 – Announcing the Record of Decision

#### ▶ What's inside this Fact Sheet:

- A review of the proposed action
- An overview of the public comment process
- An overview of the public comments received during the comment process
- A summary of what is next in the process

### Proposed Action

The National Guard Bureau (NGB) proposes to beddown two F-35A squadrons consisting of 18 aircraft and 2 backup aircraft each, thereby establishing an F-35A operational squadron at two of five alternative ANG locations. In addition, the NGB would implement necessary construction projects to successfully beddown the aircraft at the selected installations. The five alternative locations are:



#### **115 FW at Dane County Regional Airport, Madison, Wisconsin;**

A public meeting was held on March 8, 2018.



#### **124 FW at Boise Air Terminal, Boise, Idaho;**

A public meeting was held on February 27, 2018.



#### **125 FW at Jacksonville International Airport, Jacksonville, Florida;**

A public meeting was held on March 13, 2018.



#### **127 WG at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan;**

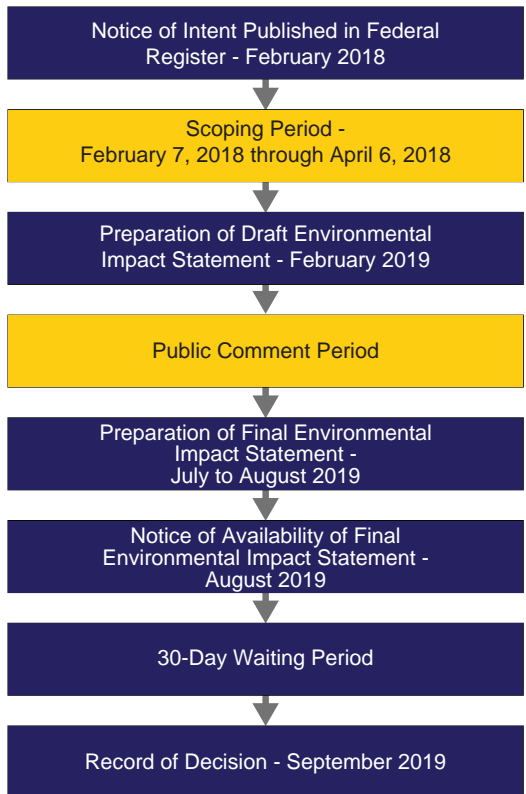
A public meeting was held on February 21, 2018.



#### **187 FW at Montgomery Regional Airport, Montgomery, Alabama;**

A public meeting was held on March 1, 2018.

### The EIS Timeline



Opportunities for Public Involvement

### Public Scoping

Public Involvement is an integral part of the Environmental Impact Analysis Process, which requires full disclosure of potential environmental impacts to the public and encourages public involvement. The first opportunity for public involvement was during the process called “public scoping”. Scoping for this EIS took place from 7 February to 6 April 2018. The initiation of the scoping process began with the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the Federal Register on 7 February 2018 notifying the public, government agencies, and other interested parties about the proposal, the public scoping period, and associated public meetings.

The NGB utilized several methods to notify the public of opportunities for involvement and methods to comment on the proposal. These methods included: an announcement in the Federal Register; mailing of letters to relevant federal, state, and local agencies; distribution of newspaper advertisements both in newspapers near the installation and under the special use airspace; distribution of flyers at nearby community centers and businesses; an e-blast (email) with an attached Fact Sheet sent to individuals on the mailing list; distribution of a public service announcement to local media; and a website posting relevant information.

## Public Comments

The NGB received a total of 1,954 written comments from the public during the official comment period (7 February to 6 April 2018). 191 persons submitted written comments during the meetings, 1,151 comments were submitted via United States mail, 3 comments via email, and 609 comments were submitted via the website. Relevant comments will be addressed in the Draft EIS. The following is a summary of the most frequent comments received during the comment period:

- Aircraft noise concerns related to
  - general annoyance
  - hearing loss
  - property values
  - domestic pets
  - wildlife
  - sleep interference
  - impacts to outdoor activities
  - request for noise mitigation
- Air Quality concerns from operation of the F-35
- Many of the lower income housing areas are located near the airfield
- Concern regarding fuel and other toxic chemicals that could leach into aquifers
- Consideration of other alternative locations (e.g. Mountain Home AFB)
- There was not enough notification for the meetings, nor was it given in a timely manner. Suggestion for use of social media such as Twitter, Facebook, etc.
- It was suggested that the Air Force establish a liaison/contact person and/or an advisory committee to respond to citizen inquiries throughout the EIS process
- Safety/crash concerns
- Confusion about why the non-preferred alternatives are still being considered
- The F-35 aircraft are too expensive and not necessary
- General opposition to the F-35 beddown
- General support for the F-35 beddown

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## What's Next

The Draft EIS is estimated to be released in February/March of 2019 and will address the public concerns identified during the scoping process. However, this schedule may change as this is a fluid process. The EIS will be published at least 15 days prior to the next public meetings. At the next public meetings, the public will have an opportunity to see the results of the analysis and how the NGB addressed their concerns, ask questions, make statements for the public record, and voice additional concerns.

## Written Comments are Still Welcome!

Written comments are welcome throughout the EIS process, though may not be specifically addressed as publication of the Draft EIS nears:

- a) By U.S. Mail to:  
F-35 EIS Project Manager  
NGB/A4AM  
Shepperd Hall  
3501 Fetchet Avenue  
Joint Base Andrews MD 20762-5157
- b) Via the project website at [www.ANGF35EIS.com](http://www.ANGF35EIS.com)

*Please note that by including your name and address on correspondence, it will be used to compile a mailing list for distributing future information regarding the EIS. Names will appear in the EIS. Phone numbers, emails, and physical addresses will not be published. By including your name and address, it will become part of the EIS administrative record.*