

Appendix K
Comments and Responses to the Supplemental Draft EIS

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APPENDIX K RESPONSES TO COMMENTS ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT EIS

APPROACH TO COMMENT AND RESPONSE PRESENTATION

Pursuant to guidelines of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) as the lead agency of this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) provides responses to comments received during the public comment period for a Draft or Supplemental Draft EIS. GSA's responses to comments received on the October 2012 Draft EIS were provided in Appendix K of the Supplemental Draft EIS. GSA's responses to comments received during the public comment period for the Supplemental Draft EIS, from January 9 to February 23, 2015, are provided in Appendix K of this Final EIS. Where appropriate, GSA has added clarifying information in the main text of the Final EIS to further respond to comments. The approach to the presentation of the comments received and responses provided is summarized as follows:

- Appendix K is a separate appendix of the Final EIS where all comments received on the Supplemental Draft EIS and GSA responses are located.
- Appendix K begins with a table that lists all commenters by category. Commenters on the Supplemental Draft EIS include federal agencies, Commonwealth of Virginia agencies, local agencies and officials, and individuals.

Each commenter's statement is given a number and letter. The statements are bracketed according to individual topic or point of discussion. These brackets are illustrated on each commenter's statement and given an alpha-numeric code. The code consists of a letter indicating the group of the commenter (F is federal agency, T is Tribe, C is Commonwealth agency, L is local official or agency, and I is for Individual); and a number for the commenter followed by a letter indicating a particular comment. (e.g., F1 is federal agency commenter; F1-A is that commenters first comment). Each of the bracketed comments has a corresponding response in the response column.

The intent of the responses is to directly address the comments. Where comments were considered to be opinions or suggestions of the commenter and a detailed response is not required, the response "comment noted" is given. Where comments are re-stating elements of the Supplemental Draft EIS, they are considered to be for informational purposes and do not require a response. Such comments are not given a bracket or code. Responses provided to similar comments are cross-referenced to avoid extensive duplication. In general, the comments that are addressed first (e.g., agencies) have more extensive responses and similar comments that appear later in the appendix are referred to the earlier response of another commenter (e.g., Refer to response F1-B). Where applicable, responses provide the reader with a reference to a section of the Final EIS for more detail, or to a section of the Final EIS that has been revised.

COMMENT INDEX

Commenter by Category (Note: All written comments are grouped by commenter)	Comment Number	Page Number
Federal Agencies		
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)	F1	K-6
National Guard Bureau	F2	K-10
State Agencies		
Commonwealth of Virginia: Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) Department of Health Department of Forestry Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Department of Aviation Nottoway County Prince Edward County Lunenburg County Crater Planning District Commission Richmond Regional Planning District Commission	C1	K-12
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Blackstone Volunteer Fire Department	L1	K-63
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Wilkerson (CenturyLink)	I1	K-65
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FEDERAL AGENCIES



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

February 23, 2015

Ms. Abigail Low
GSA Project Manager
20 N 8th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for U.S. Department of State Foreign Affairs Security Training Center, Nottoway County, Virginia (CEQ #20150000)

Dear Ms. Low:

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) prepared by the General Services Administration (GSA) for the U.S. Department of State (DOS) Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) proposed on the property of Fort Pickett in Nottoway County, Virginia. The new study supplements the Draft EIS published in 2012 (2012 DEIS) for the proposed DOS training center and offers the alternative of a smaller footprint and a more reduced-capacity facility than investigated in 2012.

The purpose of the proposed FASTC is to consolidate existing dispersed hard skills training functions into a single suitable location that can provide hard skills training specifically designed to enable personnel to conduct security operations/activities in high-threat environments abroad. The proposed FASTC is needed to improve training efficiency and provide priority access to training venues to meet increased demand for well-trained personnel.

The DSEIS addresses substantial changes to the proposed action as presented in the 2012 DEIS. Specific changes include a reduced scope to include only "hard skills" training venues which consist of high speed driving tracks, weapons firing ranges, mock urban environments, explosives ranges, and associated classrooms and administrative support functions. The DSEIS analyzes the No Action Alternative and Build Alternative 3, the Preferred Alternative. The major differences of Build Alternative 3, as compared with 2012 Build Alternatives 1 and 2, are the locations of the administrative area (Core Area) and the consolidation, reduction, or elimination of several training venues and support facilities. Build Alternative 3 includes three

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GSA Response

No response necessary on this page.

site parcels (Parcel 21/20, Grid Parcel, and LRA Parcel 9) and several areas to be shared with the Army National Guard (ARNG).

EPA appreciates the coordination performed by GSA in their effort to respond to comments and recommendations made by EPA on the 2012 DEIS, and allowing EPA to participate in the preparation of the DSEIS. EPA has rated the DSEIS an EC-1 (Environmental Concerns/Adequate) which indicates that environmental impacts have been identified through the study and appropriate mitigation will be required; the DSEIS addresses the environmental impacts, but the addition of clarifying information would be helpful. A copy of EPA's rating system is enclosed for your information. EPA is asking for minor clarifications regarding wetlands/vegetation and hazardous areas; recommendations are included in the Technical Comments document (enclosed) for your consideration. EPA appreciates the modifications to alternatives that have minimized impacts to natural resources including reducing impacts to wetlands from the 6.5 acres of wetland impacts in the 2012 DEIS to approximately 5 acres. Any further effort during design to further minimize impacts to natural resources is encouraged.

F1-A

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have questions regarding these comments, the staff contact for this project is Karen DelGrosso; she can be reached at 215-814-2765 or delgrosso.karen@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Barbara Rudnick
NEPA Team Leader
Office of Environmental Programs

Enclosure (2)

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GSA Response

F1-A

Responses to the technical comments are provided below. USEPA's rating of EC-1 is noted.

	GSA Response
<p style="text-align: center;">Technical Comments</p> <p><u>Aquatic Resources</u></p> <p>Page 3-1 states, "In addition, 12 acres between Parcel 21/20 and Dearing Avenue is included in the affected environment descriptions for Parcel 21/20 because the land is immediately adjacent to the parcel. The site also includes use of 19 acres at Fort Pickett Range 8. Because no construction is proposed for this area, it is not included in the affected environment of the site unless resources are present that could be affected by the additional use." When looking at Figure 4.1-1, Direct and Indirect Wetland Impacts Parcel 21/20 Build Alternative 3, it appears as though there may be direct wetland impacts on the 12 acres between Parcel 21/20 and Dearing Avenue. Please clarify.</p> <p>The impact to vegetation includes a total of 406 acres (365 forest and 41 shrub/grass). Proposed restoration includes 180 acres of vegetation and 87 acres of forest. As discussed with GSA in a meeting on 11/25/14, it was understood that forested wetlands would be mitigated at a 2-1 ratio. Of the approximate 5.72 acres of wetland impacts, approximately 5 acres are forested wetlands. The EIS does not state that mitigation of forested wetlands would be at a 2:1 ratio. Please discuss to ensure that compensation for loss would be mitigated appropriately.</p> <p>As EPA and the Corps have indicated, the aquatic resources onsite and the proposed impacts should be fully characterized, and all impacts to aquatic resources should be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent practicable. Characterization of the resource includes providing information on the resource type, its condition and its function and values in the watershed. This includes wetlands and biological evaluation of streams. This is needed to fully assess the environmental impact of the loss of the resource and to determine appropriate compensatory mitigation to replace lost functions in the watershed. We appreciate that GSA has engaged the Corps and EPA in discussing these issues.</p> <p><u>Hazardous Areas</u></p> <p>EPA questioned the three unlabeled 50-gallon drums on the property at 507 Garnett Avenue that were believed to contain soils associated with the environmental investigation conducted at site EBS 115. GSA responded, "These drums were not observed during the 2012 follow up environmental assessment investigations and are assumed to have been removed (Cardno TEC 2013a)." Although the drums are no longer on the site, GSA did not address the soils on site to determine if there may be a need to assess or sample for potential contamination.</p> <p>Page 4-74 states, "Nottoway County will be notified of the release discovered and delineated at Building 1100 during the follow up environmental assessment investigations conducted in December 2012 (Cardno TEC 2013a)." What was discovered at the follow up investigation? Please provide results.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Printed on 100% recycled/recyclable paper with 100% post-consumer fiber and process chlorine free. Customer Service Hotline: 1-800-438-2474</p>	<p>F1-B</p> <p>There are direct impacts to wetlands within the 12 acre area for the proposed tank trail relocation. To simplify the discussions for each site parcel, the affected environment and impacts on the 12 acre area are included under "Parcel 21/20." Therefore, the total impacts discussed for Parcel 21/20 include the impacts in the 12 acre area, as illustrated by Figure 4.1-1.</p> <p>F1-C</p> <p>The 2 to 1 ratio for purchase of mitigation credits for forested wetlands has been added to Sections 4.1.4.3 and 6.3 of the Final EIS.</p> <p>F1-D</p> <p>Functions and values and the results of biological evaluation of aquatic resources on the site will be included in the Joint Permit Application.</p> <p>F1-E</p> <p>The drums at 507 Garnett were not noted to be in poor condition or leaking in the Schnabel Phase I report. The material in the drums was believed to be investigation derived waste from the investigation of EBS-115, which included the 507 Garnett site. The site was a former motor pool and was identified as a site of concern during the 1997 Environmental Baseline Survey. Subsequent remedial investigations found detectable concentrations of chemicals in site soils and groundwater. Ecological and human health risk assessments were performed for the site and determined that chemicals in soils and groundwater at EBS-115 did not pose an unacceptable health risk to human populations or the environment, and therefore, further investigations and/or remediation efforts are not necessary. A Record of Decision was issued by the USEPA in 2005 stating that no action was necessary for the EBS-115 site to protect public health, welfare, or the environment. Soils observed at 507 Garnett during the Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) did not show evidence of a release (staining, stressed vegetation) and were not identified as a recognized environmental condition in need of further investigation. Additional explanation has been added to Section 3.2.11.2 of the Final EIS.</p> <p>F1-F</p> <p>Response on the next page.</p>

<p><u>Miscellaneous</u></p> <p>The following page/figure references in GSA’s responses to EPA’s comments may be changed to accurately reflect text. Response F2-E states, “Page 3-20 of the Supplemental Draft EIS has been revised for clarification.” The page reference should be Page 3-22.</p> <p>Response F2-H states “Section 3.2.3.4, Baseline Risk Areas on page 3-59....” The page referenced should be page 3-57.</p> <p>Response F2-H states, “Figures 4.2-5 through 4.2-10....” should be Figures 4.2-1 through 4.2-4.</p> <p>Response F2-L states, “The PA-39 release area is located north and east of the Grid parcel at a motor pool; it has been depicted on Figure 3.2-16....” The figure referenced should be Figure 3.2-17.</p> <p>Response F2-X states, “Additional text has also been added to Sections 2.2.3.2, 2.2.3.3, 6.3 and Tables ES-2 and 6.15.1 of this Supplemental Draft EIS.” The correct section referenced should be Section 2.2.2.2 and the table referenced should be Table 6.16.1.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">F1-G</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  Printed on 100% recycled/recyclable paper with 100% post-consumer fiber and process chlorine free. Customer Service Hotline: 1-800-438-2474 </p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>F1-F The investigation of the release at Building 1100 concluded that the release had adversely affected an area approximately four square feet and two feet deep. Additional samples are planned prior to construction to determine remediation and disposal options. Section 4.2.11 of the Final EIS has been updated.</p> <p>F1-G Corrections noted.</p>
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<p>From: Myles Vaughan - 3PMEE [mailto:myles.vaughan@gsa.gov] Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 1:10 PM To: Hall, Kathy Subject: Fwd: FASTC EIS</p> <p>NGB comments.</p> <p>Myles J. Vaughan NEPA Program Manager Urban Development/Good Neighbor Program Rep</p> <p>Environment Section, FMSP Division GSA Mid-Atlantic Region</p> <p>myles.vaughan@gsa.gov 215-756-5948 (cell)</p> <p>On Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 9:58 AM, Hudson, Anna M CIV NG NGB ARNG (US) <anna.m.hudson22.civ@mail.mil> wrote:</p> <p>Hi Myles,</p> <p>ARNG comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The EIS states DOS will use the FT Pickett ASP. Since DOS will not be using the FT Pickett ASP, the discussion in the EIS needs to be updated to reflect DOS's proposed ASP solutions. F2-A 2. There are questions at ARNG about the movement of the tank trail. Is that something DOS will be paying for? F2-B 3. It would be useful to have a meeting to discuss the real estate particulars of this action between DOS, VAARNG and ARNG (and GSA?). ARNG can provide meeting space in Arlington if that is the most convenient location. Would you be able to assist in identifying attendees? <p>Thanks,</p> <p>Anna</p> <p>Anna Hudson</p> <p>NEPA Program Manager (East) Army National Guard Directorate Environmental Programs Division Assessments and Evaluation Branch 703.601.7980 anna.m.hudson22.civ@mail.mil Your opinion matters to me! If you would like, please click on the ICE link below to rate the service you received today: http://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&s=1113&sp=129628&dep=</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>F2-A The Final EIS has been updated to include the proposed location of the ammunition supply point.</p> <p>F2-B The required relocation of the Butterwood Road tank trail is included in the cost of Build Alternative 3.</p>
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STATE AGENCIES



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Street address: 629 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218
Fax: 804-698-4019 - TDD (804) 698-4021
www.deq.virginia.gov

Molly Joseph Ward
Secretary of Natural Resources

David K. Paylor
Director
(804) 698-4020
1-800-592-5482

February 20, 2015

Ms. Abigail Low
General Services Administration
20 N. 8th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

RE: Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement: U.S. General Services
Administration Foreign Affairs Training Center located in Nottoway County, DEQ
15-004F

Dear Ms. Low:

The Commonwealth of Virginia has completed its review of the supplemental draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for the above-referenced project. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is responsible for coordinating Virginia's review of federal environmental documents prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and responding to appropriate federal officials on behalf of the Commonwealth. The following agencies and planning district commissions participated in this review:

- Department of Environmental Quality
- Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
- Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Department of Historic Resources
- Department of Forestry
- Department of Aviation
- Department of Transportation
- Crater Planning District Commission
- Richmond Regional Planning District Commission

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Health, Department of Mines Minerals and Energy, Department of Military Affairs, Commonwealth Regional Commission, Southside Planning District Commission,

GSA Response

No response necessary on this page.

<p>U.S. General Services Administration Supplemental Draft EIS FASTC DEQ 15-004F Page 2</p> <p>Nottoway County, Town of Blackstone, Amelia County, Prince Edward County, Brunswick County, Chesterfield County, Dinwiddie County and Lunenburg County did not respond to DEQ's request for comments.</p> <p>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</p> <p>The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) submitted a supplemental draft EIS for the proposed construction of the Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) and associated land acquisition in Nottoway County. The supplemental draft EIS describes how the scope of the project has decreased since it was originally proposed in 2012 (DEQ 12-189F). The proposed project site is on three parcels of land within the Army National Guard Maneuver Training Center, which is operated by the Virginia Army National Guard, at Fort Pickett. Under the current proposal, the FASTC will focus on field training, weapons and explosives ranges, mock urban environments and associated administrative support space. It will not include dormitories, dining facilities or emergency services. Instead, these services would be sought in the community. The total building space would be reduced from 2.5 to 0.7 million square feet with a reduced staff from 1,070 to 339. However, the FASTC would still train approximately 8,000 to 10,000 people annually, as original proposed. The supplement EIS considers the preferred alternative or proposed action (build alternative 3) as well as a no action alternative.</p> <p>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION</p> <p>1. Water Quality and Wetlands. The EIS (page 4-8) indicates that some impacts to wetlands may be unavoidable.</p> <p>1(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The State Water Control Board promulgates Virginia's water regulations, covering a variety of permits to include Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, Virginia Pollution Abatement Permit, Surface and Groundwater Withdrawal Permit, and the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) Permit. The VWP Permit is a state permit which governs wetlands, surface water and surface water withdrawals/impoundments. It also serves as § 401 certification of the federal Clean Water Act § 404 permits for dredge and fill activities in waters of the United States. The VWP Permit (VWPP) Program is under the Office of Wetlands and Water Protection/Compliance within the DEQ Division of Water Quality Programs. In addition to central office staff who review and issue VWP permits for transportation and water withdrawal projects, the six DEQ regional offices perform permit application reviews and issue permits for the covered activities.</p> <p>1(b) Agency Comments. The DEQ Blue Ridge Regional Office (BRRO) states that it does not appear that any new activities or impacts would be generated beyond those</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>No response necessary on this page.</p>
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 Page 3

identified previously in the 2012 draft EIS. In addition, the GSA addressed DEQ's previous comments in Appendix K.

1(c) Requirement.

- If impacts to surface waters and wetlands are proposed, a VWP Permit from DEQ may be required.

1(d) Agency Recommendations. Coordinate with the DEQ BRRO regarding applicable permits.

In general, DEQ recommends that impacts to surface waters, including wetlands, be avoided to the maximum extent practicable and encourages the following construction practices to minimize impacts:

- Operate machinery and construction vehicles outside of stream-beds and wetlands; use synthetic mats when in-stream work is unavoidable.
- Preserve the top 12 inches of material removed from wetlands for use as wetland seed and root-stock in the excavated area.
- Design erosion and sedimentation controls in accordance with the most current edition of the *Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook*. These controls should be in place prior to clearing and grading, and maintained in good working order to minimize impacts to state waters. The controls should remain in place until the area is stabilized.
- Place heavy equipment, located in temporarily impacted wetland areas, on mats, geotextile fabric, or use other suitable measures to minimize soil disturbance, to the maximum extent practicable.
- Restore all temporarily disturbed wetland areas to pre-construction conditions and plant or seed with appropriate wetlands vegetation in accordance with the cover type (emergent, scrub-shrub or forested). The applicant should take all appropriate measures to promote revegetation of these areas. Stabilization and restoration efforts should occur immediately after the temporary disturbance of each wetland area instead of waiting until the entire project has been completed.
- Place all materials which are temporarily stockpiled in wetlands, designated for use for the immediate stabilization of wetlands, on mats or geotextile fabric in order to prevent entry in state waters. These materials should be managed in a manner that prevents leachates from entering state waters and must be entirely removed within thirty days following completion of that construction activity. The disturbed areas should be returned to their original contours, stabilized within thirty days following removal of the stockpile, and restored to the original vegetated state.
- Flag or mark all non-impacted surface waters within the project or right-of-way

C1-A

GSA Response

C1-A

Additional opportunities for avoidance and minimization of wetland impacts will be considered during project design. Construction practices would comply with all requirements of the Section 404/401 Joint Permit and the Virginia Stormwater Management Program.

<p>U.S. General Services Administration Supplemental Draft EIS FASTC DEQ 15-004F Page 4</p> <p>limits that are within 50 feet of any clearing, grading or filling activities for the life of the construction activity within that area. The project proponent should notify all contractors that these marked areas are surface waters where no activities are to occur.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employ measures to prevent spills of fuels or lubricants into state waters. <p>2. Subaqueous Lands. The supplemental draft EIS (page 4-5) states that the build alternative includes stream crossings. In addition, Appendix K indicates that a Joint Permit Application (JPA) will be submitted to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC).</p> <p>2(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The VMRC regulates encroachments in, on or over state-owned subaqueous beds as well as tidal wetlands pursuant to Virginia Code § 28.2-1200 through 1400.</p> <p>The VMRC serves as the clearinghouse for the JPA used by the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) for issuing permits pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act; • DEQ for issuance of a Virginia Water Protection (VWP) permit; • VMRC for encroachments on or over state-owned subaqueous beds as well as tidal wetlands; and • local wetlands board for impacts to wetlands. <p>The VMRC will distribute the completed JPA to the appropriate agencies. Each agency will conduct its review and respond.</p> <p>2(b) Agency Recommendation. Coordinate with VMRC regarding applicable permits and the submission of a JPA.</p> <p>3. Erosion and Sediment and Stormwater Management Controls. The supplemental draft EIS (page 4-4) indicates that erosion and stormwater management controls would be implemented for all construction projects as required by regulations.</p> <p>3(a) Agency Jurisdiction. Effective July 1, 2013, the DEQ Water Division administers the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Law and Regulations (VESCL&R) and the Virginia Stormwater Management Law and Regulations (VSWML&R).</p> <p>3(b) Agency Comments. The DEQ Water Division Office of Construction Programs did not respond the request for comment. The comments below are reiterated from DEQ 14-093F, which involved the review of a similar project. Contrary to the supplemental draft EIS, DEQ (not DCR) administers the VESCL&R and VSWML&R.</p>	<p>C1-A Cont.</p> <p>C1-B</p> <p>C1-C</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>C1-A Response on previous page.</p> <p>C1-B A Section 404/401 Joint Permit Application will be submitted to VMRC.</p> <p>C1-C GSA is coordinating with VDEQ Water Division. All regulated land disturbance would be conducted in compliance with the minimum standards outlined in the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations.</p>
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3(c) Erosion and Sediment Control. According to the DEQ Water Division, the applicant and its authorized agents conducting regulated land disturbing activities on private and public lands in the state must comply with the VESCL&R and VSWML&R, including coverage under the general permit for stormwater discharge from construction activities, and other applicable federal nonpoint source pollution mandates (e.g. Clean Water Act-Section 313). Clearing and grading activities, installation of staging areas, parking lots, roads, buildings, utilities, borrow areas, soil stockpiles, and related activities that result in the land-disturbance of equal to or greater than 10,000 square feet would be regulated by VESCL&R. Accordingly, the applicant must prepare and implement ESC plan to ensure compliance with state law and regulations. The applicant is ultimately responsible for achieving project compliance through oversight of on-site contractors, regular field inspection, prompt action against non-compliant sites, and other mechanisms consistent with agency policy (Reference: VESCL §62.1-44.15 *et seq.*).

C1-C
 Cont.

3(d) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities (VAR10). DEQ is responsible for the issuance, denial, revocation, termination and enforcement of the Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities related to municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) and construction activities for the control of stormwater discharges from MS4s and land disturbing activities under the Virginia Stormwater Management Program. The operator or owner of construction activities involving land-disturbing activities equal to or greater than 1 acre is required to register for coverage under the General Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities and develop a project specific stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP must be prepared prior to submission of the registration statement for coverage under the general permit and the SWPPP must address water quality and quantity in accordance with the Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Permit Regulations. General information and forms are available at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/StormwaterManagement/VSMPPermits/ConstructionGeneralPermit.aspx>.

C1-D

4. Air Quality. The EIS (page 4-25) indicates that construction and operation of the project would not have a significant impact on air quality.

4(a) Agency Jurisdiction. DEQ's Air Quality Division, on behalf of the State Air Pollution Control Board, is responsible for developing regulations that implement Virginia's Air Pollution Control Law. DEQ is charged with carrying out mandates of the state law and related regulations as well as Virginia's federal obligations under the Clean Air Act as amended in 1990. The objective is to protect and enhance public health and quality of life through control and mitigation of air pollution. The division

GSA Response

C1-C

Response on previous page.

C1-D

GSA is coordinating with VDEQ Water Division, and would obtain all applicable permits and prepare all required plans, including a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan.

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ensures the safety and quality of air in Virginia by monitoring and analyzing air quality data, regulating sources of air pollution, and working with local, state and federal agencies to plan and implement strategies to protect Virginia's air quality. The appropriate regional office is directly responsible for the issuance of necessary permits to construct and operate all stationary sources in the region as well as monitoring emissions from these sources for compliance. As a part of this mandate, environmental impact reports of projects to be undertaken in the state are also reviewed. In the case of certain projects, additional evaluation and demonstration must be made under the general conformity provisions of state and federal law.

4(b) Ozone Attainment Area. The DEQ Air Division states that the proposed project is located in an ozone attainment area.

4(c) Requirements.

4(c)(i) Open Burning. If the project includes the burning of vegetative debris and/or demolition and construction material, this activity must meet the requirements under 9VAC5-130 *et seq.* of the regulations for open burning, and it may require a permit. The regulations provide for, but do not require, the local adoption of a model ordinance concerning open burning. The responsible party should contact Nottoway County to determine what local requirements, if any, exist.

4(c)(ii) Fugitive Dust. During construction, fugitive dust must be kept to a minimum by using control methods outlined in 9VAC5-50-60 *et seq.* of the Regulations for the Control and Abatement of Air Pollution. These precautions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Use, where possible, water or chemicals for dust control;
- Install and use hoods, fans and fabric filters to enclose and vent the handling of dusty materials;
- Cover open equipment for conveying materials; and
- Promptly remove spilled or tracked dirt or other materials from paved streets and remove dried sediments resulting from soil erosion.

4(c)(iii) Fuel-Burning Equipment. Fuel-burning equipment (boilers, generators, compressors, etc.) or any other air-pollution-emitting equipment may be subject to permitting or registration requirements.

4(d) Agency Recommendation. Contact DEQ BRRO for information on requirements related to registration or permitting of fuel-burning equipment, as applicable.

C1-E

GSA Response

C1-E

Open burning of construction debris would not be conducted.

Impacts from fugitive dust would be minimized by implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) such as periodic wetting of soils and various other dust control measures during FASTC construction and operation. Refer to Final EIS Sections 4.2.2 and 6.6.

Section 4.2.2 analyzes fuel-burning equipment relative to the requirements of 9VAC5-80. The proposed boilers are all less than 10,000,000 Btu/hour and therefore are categorically exempted from permitting regulations of the Commonwealth of Virginia for stationary sources of air emissions. The emergency generators are exempt from permitting regulations provided maintenance and testing hours are kept below 100 hours per year (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 60 Subpart IIII and/or 40 CFR 63.6640(f)) and total hours of operation are kept below 500 hours per year.

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5. Solid and Hazardous Waste Management. The supplemental draft EIS (page 4-77) states that impacts associate with hazardous substances would be minimized through compliance with regulations.

5(a) Agency Jurisdiction. Solid and hazardous wastes in Virginia are regulated by DEQ, the Virginia Waste Management Board and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). They administer programs created by the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly called Superfund, and the Virginia Waste Management Act. DEQ administers regulations established by the Virginia Waste Management Board and reviews permit applications for completeness and conformance with facility standards and financial assurance requirements. All Virginia localities are required, under the Solid Waste Management Planning Regulations, to identify the strategies they will follow on the management of their solid wastes to include items such as facility siting, long-term (20-year) use, and alternative programs such as materials recycling and composting.

5(b) Agency Comments. The DEQ Division of Land Protection and Revitalization (DLPR) (formerly known as the DEQ Waste Division) states that its 2012 comments provided in response to the draft EIS (DEQ 12-189F) review remain valid. DEQ DLPR's comments are reiterated below.

5(c) Database and Data File Search Results. The DEQ DLPR states that the EIS addresses potential solid waste and/or hazardous waste issues and includes a thorough review of potential environmental issues related to the parcels identified for development. The report appears to indicate that DEQ's databases and DLPR files were searched, and indicates that DEQ offices had been contacted about possible ground contamination concerns. The DLPR staff has conducted a cursory review of its database files under zip code 23824, including a Geographic Information System database search (within a 0.5-mile radius) of the project site, and identified the information below. Comments from the DEQ Federal Facilities Program are included. The sites identified are for reference as their proximities to the subject site are unknown.

RCRA/Hazardous Waste Facilities

- BRAC Property Fort Pickett, 403 Military Road, Blackstone, VA 23824. ID# 0213720931. Contact: Francis Gilmore at 434-292-3317.
- Fort Pickett USARC AMSA No. 88, Bldg 564 Kemper Avenue, Blackstone, VA 23824. ID# VAR000005553. Contact: Michele Brown at 804-233-6473.
- MTC Fort Pickett, VAARNG-FM-E, Bldg 234, Blackstone, VA 23824. ID# VAD988228359. Contact: David K. Short at 434-292-2144.

C1-F

GSA Response

C1-F

Regarding the sites noted from VDEQ's database:

- Sites 0213720931 and VAD988228359 are within Pickett Park northeast of LRA Parcel 9. Neither site would be affected by the project.
- Site VAR000005553 is located adjacent to the Grid parcel, which has recently been subject to soil and groundwater testing to ensure activities associated with Site VAR000005553 have not affected soils or groundwater conditions on the Grid Parcel (refer to Section 3.2.11 and 4.2.11).
- Sites VAD982677429 and 988224937 are not located near any of the FASTC parcels.
- Comprehensive, Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Site 2210020705 is located to the north of the airfield and would not be affected by the proposed project. Additionally, the USEPA issued a Record of Decision for this site in 2002 indicating that no further remedial action is necessary at this site
- The former solid waste facility is located north of the proposed project area and would not be affected by the proposed action
- 39 Maple Lane is located outside of the boundary of Fort Pickett and the petroleum release is indicated to be closed. This release would have no impact on Fort Pickett or the proposed project area.

<p>U.S. General Services Administration Supplemental Draft EIS FASTC DEQ 15-004F Page 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VAARNG-ARMORY-Blackstone, N. High Street, Blackstone, VA 23824. ID# VAD982677429. Contact: Pamela W. Coleman at 434-298-6445. • VIP & SU Southern Piedmont AES, Highway 40 East, Blackstone, VA 23824. ID# 988224937. Contact: Jack Nunes at 540-231-8758. <p><i>CERCLA Site</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fort Pickett, Kemper Avenue, Blackstone, VA 23824. EPA ID 2210020705. Not NPL. <p>The following websites may prove helpful in locating additional information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/cursites/index.htm • www.epa.gov/enviro/html/rcris/rcris_query_java.html <p><i>Formally Used Defense Sites</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C03VA0028/VA9799F7770, Fort Picket Mill Resv, Blackstone • C03VA0220/VA9899F1674, Fort Pickett A ARPT, Blackstone <p>The DEQ's Federal Facilities Restoration Program reviewed this submittal and it appears that the project will not impact any sites at Fort Pickett (Environmental Restoration Program, Base Realignment and Closure, and Formerly Used Defense Sites).</p> <p><i>Solid Waste Facility</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWP333 – U.S. Army Fort Pickett, Closed Sanitary Landfill, Rives Road at 9th Street, Blackstone, VA 23824. <p><i>Petroleum Release Site</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID# 20112039 – Grant Residence, 39 Maple Lane, Blackstone, VA 23824. Event Date: 10/25/2010. Status: Closed. <p>5(d) Requirements.</p> <p>5(d)(i) Asbestos-Containing Materials and Lead-Based Paint. All structures being demolished or removed should be checked for asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and lead-based paint (LBP) prior to demolition. If ACM and LBP are found, in addition to the federal waste-related regulations mentioned above, state regulations 9VAC20-81-640 for ACM and 9VAC20-60-261 for LBP must be followed.</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>C1-F Response on previous page.</p> <p>C1-G As indicated in section 4.2.11.1, surveys would be conducted prior to demolition and any disposal would be adhere to applicable state, federal, and local requirements for protecting human health and safety and the environment.</p> <p>C1-F Cont.</p> <p>C1-G</p>
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5(d)(ii) Soil and Waste Management. Any soil that is suspected of contamination or wastes that are generated must be tested and disposed of in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

5(d)(iii) Petroleum Storage Tanks. Conduct the removal, relocation or closure of any regulated petroleum storage tanks – aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) or underground storage tank (USTs) – in accordance with the requirements of the Virginia Tank Regulations 9VAC25-91-10 *et seq.* for ASTs and 9VAC25-580-10 *et seq.* for USTs. Report the installation or use of any portable aboveground petroleum storage tank (> 660 gallons, 9VAC 25-91-10 *et seq.*) for more than 120 days the DEQ BRRO Petroleum Storage Tank Program.

5(e) Agency Recommendations.

- DEQ encourages all projects and facilities to implement pollution prevention principles, including:
 - the reduction, reuse and recycling of all solid wastes generated; and
 - the minimization and proper handling of generated hazardous wastes.
- Contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for information concerning Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) obligations at Fort Pickett's Main Post, including establish the nature and extent of any known environmental contamination at or near Fort Pickett, or other Areas of Concern (AOCs) which may be in close proximity to the proposed project.

6. Natural Heritage Resources. According to the response to comments in the supplemental draft EIS to the 2012 review (Appendix K, page K-38), the supplemental draft EIS states that a survey for Michaux's sumac was conducted. The plant was not found and the survey results were sent to DCR on July 16, 2012.

6(a) Agency Jurisdiction.

6(a)(i) Natural Heritage Resources. The mission of the DCR is to conserve Virginia's natural and recreational resources. DCR supports a variety of environmental programs organized within seven divisions including the Division of Natural Heritage (DNH). DNH's mission is conserving Virginia's biodiversity through inventory, protection, and stewardship. The Virginia Natural Area Preserves Act, 10.1-209 through 217 of the *Code of Virginia*, was passed in 1989 and codified DCR's powers and duties related to statewide biological inventory: maintaining a statewide database for conservation planning and project review, land protection for the conservation of biodiversity, and the

C1-H

GSA Response

C1-H

Procedures would be in place for safe handling, use, and disposal of existing or introduced hazardous substances and waste during demolition, construction, and operations.

Section 4.2.11.1 indicates that tanks would be removed and closed by a licensed contractor in coordination with VDEQ. Investigations were conducted in 2012 to locate and characterize soil conditions associated with undocumented Underground storage tanks (USTs)/aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) to the extent feasible. The results of these investigations are included in Section 4.2.11 of the Final EIS. Contaminant levels are not anticipated to be high and would be managed on a case by case basis in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations, if such locations are encountered during demolition activities. If unregistered or unknown USTs are encountered during construction, they would be removed and closed by a licensed contractor in coordination with VDEQ.

Chapter 6 and Table 6.16-1 of the Final EIS discusses impact minimization and mitigation measures including pollution prevention and hazardous materials/hazardous waste management (CERCLA, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Oil Pollution Act, Pollution Prevention Act). The description of the Proposed Action (Section 2.1) addresses energy efficiency and reduction of waste, pollution, and environmental impacts to achieve certification as Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design Silver buildings. Pollution prevention principles are also incorporated into GSA Sustainable Design Principles.

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protection and ecological management of natural heritage resources (the habitats of rare, threatened and endangered species, significant natural communities, geologic sites, and other natural features).

6(a)(ii) Threatened and Endangered Plant and Insect Species. The Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act of 1979, Chapter 39, §3.1-102- through 1030 of the *Code of Virginia*, as amended, authorizes the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) to conserve, protect and manage endangered species of plants and insects. VDACS Virginia Endangered Plant and Insect Species Program personnel cooperates with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), DCR DNH and other agencies and organizations on the recovery, protection or conservation of listed threatened or endangered species and designated plant and insect species that are rare throughout their worldwide ranges. In those instances where recovery plans, developed by FWS, are available, adherence to the order and tasks outlined in the plans should be followed to the extent possible. VDACS has regulatory authority to conserve rare and endangered plant and insect species through the Virginia Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act. Under a Memorandum of Agreement established between the VDACS and DCR, DCR has the authority to report for VDACS on state-listed plant and insect species.

6(b) Agency Findings. The DCR DNH searched its Biotics Data System for occurrences of natural heritage resources from the project area. Natural heritage resources are defined as the habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species, unique or exemplary natural communities, and significant geologic formations.

6(b)(i) Michaux's Sumac. Despite the information in Appendix K, DCR DNH states that its comments and recommendations for Michaux's sumac remain valid. It appears that the 2012 survey results referred to in Appendix K only examined a small portion of right-of-way that is no longer a part of the planned project. The 2012 survey does not indicate that the bulk of the currently proposed project acreage was surveyed.

According to the information in DCR's files, the Fort Pickett Impact Area is within the project vicinity. Conservation sites are tools for representing key areas of the landscape that warrant further review for possible conservation action because of the natural heritage resources and habitat they support. Conservation sites are polygons built around one or more rare plant, animal, or natural community designed to include the element and, where possible, its associated habitat, and buffer or other adjacent land thought necessary for the element's conservation. Conservation sites are given a biodiversity significance ranking based on the rarity, quality, and number of element occurrences they contain on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being most significant. Fort Pickett Impact Area Conservation Site has been given a biodiversity significance ranking of B1,

C1-I

GSA Response

C1-I

The closest location within the Fort Pickett impact area where Michaux's Sumac is known to occur is approximately 2 miles from the most eastern boundary of the proposed FASTC site (VaARNG 2007). The training-caused wildfires at Fort Pickett, thought to promote the presence of Michaux's Sumac as noted in the comment, occur within the impact area and do not occur on the proposed site. The habitat conditions on Parcel 21/20 and LRA Parcel 9 are not consistent with habitat associated with this species. Fringes of the forested areas of the project site are dominated by invasive and pioneer shrub species much larger than Michaux's sumac that would likely out-compete the species for space and necessary resources. The frequent use of mowing instead of prescribed burning of open areas also makes the habitat unlikely to support this species on Parcel 21/20 and LRA Parcel 9. Although the Grid Parcel is primarily comprised of early successional forest and maintained areas such as roadsides and utility easement, the utility easements are either not wide enough to offer suitable habitat and/or are dominated by invasive and pioneer species. A power line easement east of LRA Parcel 9 and north of West Entrance Road on LRA Parcel 10 was determined to contain potential habitat for Michaux's sumac. The easement is mowed but infrequently enough to allow saplings and shrubs to grow. Therefore, this was determined to be the only area of the proposed project site with potential for the species. The field survey for Michaux's sumac was conducted in this area in June 2012, and this species was not found. GSA determined that the proposed project would have no effect on Michaux's sumac, and no further action is needed. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) concurred with this determination in correspondence included in Appendix C.

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which represents a site of outstanding significance. The natural heritage resource of concern at this site is Michaux's sumac (*Rhus michauxii*, Michaux's sumac, G2G3/S1/LE/LT).

Michaux's sumac is a dioecious shrub that grows from 0.3 – 0.6 meter tall (NatureServe 2011). This plant occurs in sandy or rocky, open, hardwood-dominated forests and savannas (Van Alstine and Smith, 1995), sometimes in association with circumneutral soils. It is dependent upon some form of disturbance to maintain its open habitat (NatureServe 2011). Periodic, naturally occurring fires provided such disturbance historically; however, today many of this plant's occurrences are in areas artificially disturbed such as highway, powerline and railroad rights-of-way, edges of cultivated fields, and other cleared lands. In Virginia, all but one of the known occurrences are located within Fort Pickett in the southern Piedmont where it is maintained by frequent fires. The major threats to Michaux's sumac include fire suppression and habitat degradation (NatureServe 2011). The optimal survey time period for Michaux's sumac is during the period of flowering / fruiting from June 1 – October 31 when the plant has higher visibility, but the plant can be identified as long as the leaves are present from May 1 – October 31. Michaux's sumac is classified as endangered by the FWS and listed as threatened by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS).

6(b)(ii) Bog Species. According to DCR DNH, potential exists for bog species such as Rafinesque's seedbox (*Ludwigia hirtella*, G5/S1/NL/NL) and Velvety sedge (*Carex vestita*, G5/S2/NL/NL) in the wetlands located in the western part of the project area.

Rafinesque's seedbox a state rare perennial herb, inhabits savannas and boggy seepage swales and has been documented in such disturbed areas as powerline rights-of-way (TNC, 1996). This species blooms from June to September (Weakley, in prep.). In Virginia, Rafinesque's seedbox is currently known from six locations in the coastal plain region.

Velvety sedge, a state rare sedge species, occurs in low forests (Weakley, in prep.), seepage wetlands and seasonally wet conditions. It has been documented in such disturbed areas as powerline rights-of-way (TNC, 1996). This plant blooms during April and May (Weakley, in prep). Velvety sedge is currently known from eight locations within the coastal plain and eastern piedmont regions of Virginia, of which one is a historic occurrence.

6(b)(iii) Northern Long-ear Bat. According to the Bat Survey Report conducted for the proposed FASTC dated October 31, 2014, DCR DNH states that the Northern long -ear bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) has been documented within the project area. This species is currently proposed for listing with exemptions by FWS. The Richmond Regional

C1-I
 Cont.

C1-J

C1-K

GSA Response

C1-I

Response on previous page.

C1-J

As noted in the comment, Rafinesque's seedbox and velvety sedge are bog species that occur on very wet soil types with high peat content and acidic, boggy conditions. It is unclear from the comment where the referenced "western part of the project area" is located, but based on wetlands evaluations conducted for the project, this type of habitat was not found to be present within the affected area. Nevertheless, impacts to wetlands and wetland buffer areas of the project site would be avoided or minimized to the maximum extent feasible, and any unavoidable impacts would be mitigated.

C1-K

GSA coordinated the results of the survey performed for northern long-eared bat with DCR (Appendix C November 7, 2014). GSA initiated a formal conference with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act regarding impacts to northern long-eared bat, and USFWS has included VDGIF and VDCR in the conference (Appendix C February 20, 2015).

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Planning District Commission states that it has no concerns with the project as long as necessary conservation and mitigation measures are made to accommodate the habitat of the northern long-eared bat. The proposed project should not contribute to the further endangerment of any species in the Central Virginia area (see Item 17).

C1-K
 Cont.

6(c) State-listed Plant and Insect Species.

- As identified in Item 6(b), Michaux's sumac is classified as endangered by VDACS. VDACS did not respond to DEQ's request for comment.

6(d) Natural Area Preserves. DCR found that there are no State Natural Area Preserves under its jurisdiction in the project vicinity.

6(e) Agency Recommendations. DCR DNH has the following recommendations:

- Conduct an inventory for Michaux's sumac and rare bog species in the study area.
- Coordinate survey results with DCR DNH (and VDACS if directed by DCR DNH). With the survey results, DCR DNH can more accurately evaluate potential impacts to natural heritage resources and offer specific protection recommendations for minimizing impacts to the documented resources. Upon review of the results, if it is determined that Michaux's sumac is present, and there is a likelihood of a negative impact on the species, DCR DNH will recommend coordination with VDACS to ensure compliance with Virginia's Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act.
- Coordinate with FWS and DGIF to avoid, minimize and mitigate potential impacts for the Northern long-ear bat

C1-L

7. Wildlife Management. According to the response to comments in the supplemental draft EIS to the 2012 review (Appendix K, page K-40), minimization and mitigation measures, including many recommended by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF), have been incorporate into the project.

7(a) Jurisdiction. The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF), as the Commonwealth's wildlife and freshwater fish management agency, exercises enforcement and regulatory jurisdiction over wildlife and freshwater fish, including state- or federally-listed endangered or threatened species, but excluding listed insects (Virginia Code Title 29.1). DGIF is a consulting agency under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. sections 661 *et seq.*) and provides environmental analysis of projects or permit applications coordinated through DEQ and several other state and federal agencies. DGIF determines likely impacts upon fish and wildlife resources and

GSA Response

C1-K

Response on previous page.

C1-L

Refer to responses C1-I, C1-J, and C1-K.

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habitat, and recommends appropriate measures to avoid, reduce or compensate for those impacts.

7(b) Agency Comments. DGIF states that its 2012 comments provided in response to the draft EIS (DEQ 12-189F) review remain valid. DGIF’s comments are reiterated below.

7(c) Agency Findings. According to DGIF’s records, the state-listed threatened barking tree frogs have been documented from the project area. However, DGIF believes these specimens were moved to this site in agricultural supplies and are not a native population of the species. Therefore, DGIF has determined this project is not likely to result in adverse impacts upon this species.

7(d) Agency Comments. DGIF generally does not support proposals to mitigate wetland impacts through the construction of stormwater management ponds or support the creation of in-stream stormwater management ponds. DGIF is willing to assist the GSA in developing a plan that includes open-space, wildlife habitat, and natural stream channels which retain their wooded buffers.

7(e) Agency Recommendations. To minimize overall impacts to wildlife and natural resources, DGIF offers the following recommendations about development activities:

- Avoid and minimize impacts to undisturbed forest, wetlands, and streams to the fullest extent practicable. Avoidance and minimization of impact may include relocating stream channels as opposed to filling or channelizing as well as using, and incorporating into the development plan, a natural stream channel design and wooded buffers.
- Maintain undisturbed wooded buffers of at least 100 feet in width around all on-site wetlands and on both sides of all perennial and intermittent streams.
- Maintain wooded lots to the fullest extent possible.
- Design the stormwater controls for this project to replicate and maintain the hydrographic condition of the site prior to the change in landscape. This should include, but not be limited to the following:
 - using bioretention areas; and
 - minimizing the use of curb and gutter in favor of grassed swales.
 Bioretention areas (also called rain gardens) and grass swales are components of Low Impact Development (LID). They are designed to capture stormwater runoff as close to the source as possible and allow it to slowly infiltrate into the surrounding soil. They benefit natural resources by filtering pollutants and decreasing downstream runoff volumes.
- Adhere to a time-of-year restriction from March 15 to August 15 of any year to protect nesting resident and migratory songbirds.

C1-M

GSA Response

C1-M

Chapter 6 and Table 6.16-1 of the Final EIS lists impact minimization and mitigation measures that would be incorporated into the project, including many that are noted by VDGIF. Extensive efforts have been made in the alternatives planning process (refer to Chapter 2 and Appendix B of the Final EIS) to minimize impacts where possible.

A 100-foot buffer would be maintained around wetlands and streams wherever feasible. Impacts to forest were minimized as much as possible, and re-vegetation with native forest species would be pursued where appropriate.

The suggested stormwater controls would be incorporated and would comply with Virginia Stormwater Management Program and Energy Independence and Security Act Section 438 requirements.

Most tree clearing would be conducted from October to April, avoiding much of the bird nesting season.

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- Adhere to erosion and sediment controls during ground disturbance.

7(f) Additional Information. DGIF maintains a database (<http://vafwis.org/fwis/>) of wildlife locations, including threatened and endangered species, trout streams and anadromous fish waters.

8. Forestry Resources. According to the response to comments in the supplemental draft EIS to the 2012 review (Appendix K, page K-41), GSA recognizes DOF's 2012 determination that the original plan would have had a significant impact on forest resources. The draft supplemental EIS states that vegetation would be re-planted where feasible to offset the impacts.

8(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The mission of the Department of Forestry (DOF) is to protect and develop healthy, sustainable forest resources for Virginians. DOF was established in 1914 to prevent and suppress forest fires and reforest bare lands. Since the Department's inception, it has grown and evolved to encompass other protection and management duties including: protecting Virginia's forests from wildfire, protecting Virginia's waters, managing and conserving Virginia's forests, managing state-owned lands and nurseries, and managing regulated incentive programs for forest landowners.

8(b) Agency Findings. Based on the information provided, the supplemental draft EIS appears to have considered and addressed many of the concerns previously expressed by DOF in its comments on the draft EIS submitted to DEQ on November 28, 2012.

The draft DEIS called for the removal of 525 acres of heavily forested land. This included areas within identified project parcels Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) 10 and 21/20 that DOF determined to have a high forest conservation value [FCV] (4 out of possible 5 ranking) employing the DOF In-FOREST GIS analysis tool and evaluation methodology. DOF recommended a mitigation plan be developed to reduce the amount of forestland that would be lost. Under the supplemental draft EIS, the projected forest loss has been reduced to 365 acres of which 87 acres of forestland will be restored reducing the permanent forest loss still further to 278 acres. This mitigation response represents a 47 percent reduction in forest loss through avoidance.

The draft EIS included LRA parcel 10 which DOF analysis showed contains high FCV areas because it is a second growth mixed forest that has been subject to very little previous development, it is part of a larger contiguous forest, and its western edge abuts a wetland area that may have water quality value for the adjacent residential areas. DOF noted in its 2012 comments that information pertaining to plans for LRA parcel 10 was vague and requested additional information. The SEIS has dropped LRA parcel 10 from the project footprint design. The parcel will not be developed.

GSA Response

No response necessary on this page.

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Unfragmented forest blocks within the study area have now been identified to document areas that may provide important habitat to forest dependent species. Deciduous, coniferous, and mixed forests dominate the land cover on Parcel 21/20 and it is described as being in excellent condition. The largest forest block on this parcel is approximately 174 acres in size. The second largest is approximately 165 acres. The remaining forest blocks are all less than 150 acres in size. In its comments on the draft EIS, DOF noted these forested areas and the sponsor has apparently designed around the two large forest blocks. In the supplemental draft EIS, it is stated that none of the forested areas on the 21/20 Grid Parcel are large enough to be valuable to forest interior species. In addition, one forest block located on the westernmost portion of LRA Parcel 9, is also large enough to have moderate value to forest interior species. This forest block is approximately 154 acres. The supplemental draft EIS, however, does not comment on the LRA Parcel 9.

C1-N

Contact DOF (Gregory Evans at Gregory.Evans@dof.virginia.gov or 434-906-3658) for additional information about its comments as necessary.

9. Geologic Resources.

9(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The DMME, through its six divisions, regulates the mineral industry, provides mineral research and offers advice on wise use of resources. The Department's mission is to enhance the development and conservation of energy and mineral resources in a safe and environmentally sound manner in order to support a more productive economy in Virginia.

9(b) Agency Comments. The DMME did not respond to DEQ's request for comments.

For information on geologic resources, contact DMME (David Spears at David.Spears@dmmme.virginia.gov).

10. Historic and Archaeological Resources. According to the response to comments in the supplemental draft EIS to the 2012 review (Appendix K, page K-43), consultation with the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) has been ongoing.

10(a) Agency Jurisdiction. DHR conducts reviews of projects to determine their effect on historic structures or cultural resources under its jurisdiction. DHR, as the designated State's Historic Preservation Office, ensures that federal actions comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1962 (NHPA), as amended, and its implementing regulation at 36 CFR Part 800. The NHPA requires federal agencies to consider the effects of federal projects on properties that are listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Section 106 also applies if there are any federal involvements, such as licenses, permits, approvals or funding. DHR also

GSA Response

C1-N

Supplemental Draft EIS and Final EIS Section 4.1.5.1 *Vegetation* discusses fragmentation impacts to forest blocks of moderate value on Parcel 21/20, the Grid Parcel, and LRA Parcel 9.

<p>U.S. General Services Administration Supplemental Draft EIS FASTC DEQ 15-004F Page 16</p> <p>provides comments to DEQ through the state environmental impact report review process.</p> <p>10(b) Agency Comment. DHR has been in consultation with GSA regarding this project.</p> <p>10(c) Agency Recommendation. DHR requests that the GSA continue to consult directly with DHR pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (as amended) and its implementing regulations codified at 36 CFR Part 800 which require federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertakings on historic properties.</p> <p>10(d) Requirement. The GSA must comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800.</p> <p>11. Public Water Supply. According to the response to comments in the supplemental draft EIS to the 2012 review (Appendix K, page K-44),</p> <p>11(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Office of Drinking Water (ODW) reviews projects for the potential to impact public drinking water sources (groundwater wells, springs and surface water intakes). VDH administers both federal and state laws governing waterworks operation.</p> <p>11(b) Agency Comment. VDH ODW did not respond to DEQ's request to comment.</p> <p>11(c) Water Conservation Recommendations. DEQ recommends that the GSA considers the following water conservation measures to the extent practicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grounds should be landscaped with hardy native plant species to conserve water as well as minimize the need to use fertilizers and pesticides. • Convert turf to low water-use landscaping such as drought resistant grass, plants, shrubs and trees. • Consider installing low-flow restrictors/aerators to faucets. • Improve irrigation practices by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o upgrading with a sprinkler clock; watering at night, if possible, to reduce evapotranspiration (lawns need only 1 inch of water per week and do not need to be watered daily; over watering causes 85 percent of turf problems); o installing a rain shutoff device; and o collecting rainwater with a rain bucket or cistern system with drip lines. • Consider replacement of old equipment with new high-efficiency machines to reduce water usage by 30-50 percent per use. • Check for and repair leaks during routine maintenance activities. 	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>C1-O GSA will continue to consult with VDHR regarding compliance with Section 106.</p> <p>C1-P GSA Facilities Standards for Public Buildings, and mitigation measures included in Final EIS Section 6.12 <i>Utilities</i>, incorporate the recommended water conservation measures.</p>
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<p>n</p> <p>U.S. General Services Administration Supplemental Draft EIS FASTC DEQ 15-004F Page 17</p> <p>12. Sewage Systems. According to the response to comments in the supplemental draft ES to the 2012 review (Appendix K, page K-45), the Town of Blackstone has been notified of the predicted sewer demands and it has no concerns.</p> <p>12(a) Discharging Sewer System Regulations. DEQ has approval authority for most discharging sewage collection systems and treatment works, except for single family home (less than 1,000 gallon per day) systems. This authority is contained in the Sewage Collection and Treatment (SCAT) Regulations (9VAC25-790 <i>et seq.</i>). Additional information is available on the DEQ website at www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WastewaterAssistanceTraining/WastewaterEngineering/Regulations.aspx. Construction of sanitary wastewater collection systems must comply with the state's sewerage regulations.</p> <p>12(b) Requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact DEQ BRRO to ensure compliance with the SCAT Regulations, as applicable. • Potential impacts to sanitary sewage collection systems must be verified by the local utility, according to VDH. <p>13. Aviation Impacts. According to the response to comments in the supplemental draft EIS to the 2012 review (Appendix K, page K-45), a Form 7460 will be submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).</p> <p>13(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The Virginia Department of Aviation (DOAv) is a state agency that plans for the development of the state aviation system; promotes aviation; grants aircraft and airports licenses; and provides financial and technical assistance to cities, towns, counties and other governmental subdivisions for the planning, development, construction and operation of airports, and other aviation facilities.</p> <p>13(b) Agency Findings. DOAv states that its comments from 2012 remain applicable and reiterated the requirements listed in 13(c).</p> <p>13(c) Requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take all efforts to limit the dust/glare generated from this project that could potentially negatively impact aircraft operations. • Submit 7460 Form to the FAA for review. <p>14. Transportation Impacts. According to the response to comments in the supplemental draft EIS to the 2012 review (Appendix K, pages K-22 to K-27), GSA has addressed VDOT's comments from 2012.</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>C1-Q GSA would contact VDEQ regarding compliance with Sewage Collection and Treatment Regulations.</p> <p>C1-R Noted requirements have been added to Sections 4.2.4.1 and 6.8 and Tables ES-2 and 6.16-1 of the Final EIS. GSA would submit Form 7460 to the FAA.</p>
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14(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) provides comments pertaining to potential impacts to existing and future transportation systems.

14(b) Agency Findings. VDOT states that while the transportation impacts may be slightly less than what was studied in previous submittals VDOT's 2012 comments (see attached) remain valid.

Contact VDOT (Scott Gagnon at Scott.Gagnon@vdot.virginia.gov) for additional information if necessary.

15. Agricultural Lands. The supplemental draft EIS (pages 4-3 and 4-4) states that the build alternative would affect farmland soils but the impact would not be significant.

15(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The 2001 Virginia General Assembly established the Office of Farmland Preservation within VDACS to help reduce the loss of agricultural land.

15(b) Agency Comments. VDACS did not respond to DEQ's request for comments.

16. Pollution Prevention. DEQ advocates that principles of pollution prevention be used in all construction projects as well as in facility operations. Effective siting, planning, and on-site Best Management Practices (BMPs) will help to ensure that environmental impacts are minimized. However, pollution prevention techniques also include decisions related to construction materials, design, and operational procedures that will facilitate the reduction of wastes at the source.

16(a) Recommendations. We have several pollution prevention recommendations that may be helpful in constructing or operating this project:

- Consider development of an effective Environmental Management System (EMS). An effective EMS will ensure that the proposed facility is committed to minimizing its environmental impacts, setting environmental goals, and achieving improvements in its environmental performance. DEQ offers EMS development assistance and recognizes facilities with effective Environmental Management Systems through its Virginia Environmental Excellence Program.
- Consider environmental attributes when purchasing materials. For example, the extent of recycled material content, toxicity level, and amount of packaging should be considered and can be specified in purchasing contracts.
- Consider contractors' commitment to the environment when choosing

C1-S

C1-T

GSA Response

C1-S

GSA has contacted VDOT regarding VDOT's comments. Section 4.2.6 and Appendix H of the Supplemental Draft EIS and the Final EIS present the results of the updated Traffic Impact Analysis performed in 2014 for Build Alternative 3. Build Alternative 3 would not have significant adverse traffic impacts and would not impact the capacity and levels of service at intersections or the Fort Pickett Main Gate during the a.m. or p.m. peak periods.

Under Build Alternative 3 Option A (access through existing Fort Pickett Main Gate), the turning lane analysis determined that the additional project traffic would result in the existing turning lane storage being less than VDOT design standards at one intersection. Under Option B (access through a new gate at Dearing Avenue), the turning lane analysis determined that the additional project traffic would result in the existing turning lane storage being less than VDOT design standards at three intersections. To address VDOT turning lane storage criteria, additional study by VDOT of potential turning lane improvements would be warranted. Regarding the implementation of improvements, should VDOT determine they are warranted, GSA and DOS have no authority to fund or implement roadway improvements outside property boundaries. Intersection improvements would be under the jurisdiction of VDOT. Funding and implementation of improvements would have to occur through the appropriate Commonwealth of Virginia transportation organizations. Accordingly, state and/or local governments would determine whether improvements identified would be implemented.

GSA will coordinate with VDOT regarding VDOT permitting requirements and the roadway abandonment process for VDOT-maintained roads on LRA Parcel 9.

C1-T

Chapter 6 and Table 6.16-1 of the Supplemental Draft EIS and Final EIS discuss impact minimization and mitigation measures including pollution prevention. The description of the Proposed Action (Section 2.1) addresses energy efficiency and reduction of waste, pollution, and environmental impacts to achieve certification of LEED Silver buildings. Pollution prevention principles are also incorporated into GSA Sustainable Design Principles.

<p>U.S. General Services Administration Supplemental Draft EIS FASTC DEQ 15-004F Page 19</p> <p>contractors. Specifications regarding raw materials and construction practices can be included in contract documents and requests for proposals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose sustainable materials and practices for building construction and design. • Integrate pollution prevention techniques into the facility maintenance and operation, to include inventory control for centralized storage of hazardous materials. Maintenance facilities should have sufficient and suitable space to allow for effective inventory control and preventive maintenance. <p>DEQ's Office of Pollution Prevention provides information and technical assistance relating to pollution prevention techniques and EMS. If interested, please contact DEQ (Meghann Quinn at 804-698-4021).</p> <p>17. Regional and Local Comments. The Richmond Regional Commission, Crater Planning District Commission, Commonwealth Regional Commission, Southside Planning District Commission, Nottoway County, Town of Blackstone, Amelia County, Prince Edward County, Brunswick County, Chesterfield County, Dinwiddie County and Lunenburg County were invited to comment.</p> <p>17(a) Agency Jurisdiction. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, Section 15.2-4207, planning district commissions encourage and facilitate local government cooperation and state-local cooperation in addressing, on a regional basis, problems of greater than local significance. The cooperation resulting from this is intended to facilitate the recognition and analysis of regional opportunities and take account of regional influences in planning and implementing public policies and services. Planning district commissions promote the orderly and efficient development of the physical, social and economic elements of the districts by planning, and encouraging and assisting localities to plan, for the future.</p> <p>17(b) Comments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Crater Planning District Commission finds the proposal to be consistent with the commission's environmental policy directives. • The Richmond Regional Planning District Commission states that it has no concerns with the propose project as long as necessary conservation and mitigation measures are made to accommodate the habitat of the northern long-eared bat. The proposed project should not contribute to the further endangerment of any species in the Central Virginia area (see Item 6). The commission is pleased to see the anticipated economic benefits for Chesterfield County. 	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>C1-T Response on previous page.</p> <p>C1-U Comments noted. GSA is consulting with USFWS regarding appropriate conservation measures for the Northern long-eared bat.</p>
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<p>U.S. General Services Administration Supplemental Draft EIS FASTC DEQ 15-004F Page 20</p> <p>The Commonwealth Regional Commission, Southside Planning District Commission, Nottoway County, Town of Blackstone, Amelia County, Prince Edward County, Brunswick County, Chesterfield County, Dinwiddie County and Lunenburg County did not respond to DEQ's request for comments.</p> <p>REGULATORY AND COORDINATION NEEDS</p> <p>1. Water Quality. GSA should ensure compliance with the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) Program pursuant to Virginia Code §62.1-44.15:20 <i>et seq.</i> and Virginia regulations 9VAC25-210-10 <i>et seq.</i> Contact DEQ BRRO (Cody Boggs at Cody.Boggs@deq.virginia.gov or 540-562-6740) if impacts to wetlands or streams are proposed to ensure compliance with the VWP Program.</p> <p>2. Subaqueous Lands. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC), pursuant to Virginia Code § 28.2-1200 through 1400, regulates encroachments in, on or over any state-owned bays, rivers, streams or creeks throughout the Commonwealth. For information on permits issued by the VMRC and on submitting a JPA, contact the VMRC Habitat Management Division (Tony Watkinson at 757-247-2250 or Tony.Watkinson@mrc.virginia.gov).</p> <p>3. Air Quality Regulations. According to the DEQ Air Division, the following regulations may apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9VAC5-50-60 <i>et seq.</i> of the regulations governing fugitive dust.• 9VAC5-130 <i>et seq.</i> of the regulations governing open burning. <p>For information on local requirements pertaining to open burning, contact Nottoway County.</p> <p>3(a) Fuel-burning Equipment. Contact DEQ BRRO (David Jed Brown at 434-582-6210 or David.Brown@deq.virginia.gov) for potential permitting or registration requirements for fuel-burning equipment.</p> <p>4. Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management.</p> <p>4(a) Erosion and Sediment Control. According to the DEQ Water Division, clearing and grading activities, installation of staging areas, parking lots, roads, buildings, utilities, borrow areas, soil stockpiles, and related land-disturbing activities that result in the total land disturbance of equal to or greater 10,000 square feet would be regulated by VESCL&R. Accordingly, the applicant must prepare and implement an ESC plan to</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>No response necessary on this page.</p>
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ensure compliance with state law and regulations. The applicant is ultimately responsible for achieving project compliance through oversight of on-site contractors, regular field inspection, prompt action against non-compliant sites, and other mechanisms consistent with agency policy (Reference: VESCL 62.1-44.15 *et seq.*). Submit the plan and direct questions to DEQ BRRO (Cody Boggs at 540-562-6740 or Cody.Boggs@deq.virginia.gov).

4(b) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities (VAR10). The operator or owner of a construction activity involving land disturbance of equal to or greater than 1 acre is required to register for coverage under the General Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities and develop a project specific stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP must be prepared prior to submission of the registration statement for coverage under the general permit and the SWPPP must address water quality and quantity in accordance with the *Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Permit Regulations*. General information and registration forms for the General Permit are available at www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/StormwaterManagement/VSMPPermits/ConstructionGeneralPermit.aspx. For additional information, contact the DEQ Water Division (Holly Sepety at Holly.Sepety@deq.virginia.gov).

5. Solid Waste and Hazardous Substances. All solid waste, hazardous waste, and hazardous materials must be managed in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local environmental regulations.

Applicable state regulations may include:

- Virginia Waste Management Act (*Code of Virginia* section 10.1-1400 *et seq.*);
- Virginia Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (VHWMR) (9VAC20-60);
- Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations (VSWMR) (9VAC20-81); and
- Virginia Regulations for the Transportation of Hazardous Materials (9VAC20-110).

Applicable federal regulations may include:

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) (42 U.S.C. section 6901 *et seq.*), and the applicable regulations contained in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations; and
- U.S. Department of Transportation Rules for Transportation of Hazardous Materials, 49 CFR Parts 107, 171.1-172.558.

For additional information on waste management, contact DEQ BRRO (Aziz Farahmand at 540-562-6872 or Aziz.Farahmand@deq.virginia.gov).

GSA Response

No response necessary on this page.

<p>U.S. General Services Administration Supplemental Draft EIS FASTC DEQ 15-004F Page 22</p> <p>5(a) Asbestos-Containing Material. It is the responsibility of the owner or operator of a renovation or demolition activity, prior to the commencement of the renovation or demolition, to thoroughly inspect the affected part of the facility where the operation will occur for the presence of asbestos, including Category I and Category II nonfriable asbestos-containing material (as applicable). Upon classification as friable or non-friable, all asbestos-containing material shall be disposed of in accordance with the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations (9VAC20-81-640) and transported in accordance with the Virginia regulations governing Transportation of Hazardous Materials (9VAC20-110-10 <i>et seq.</i>). Contact the DEQ Division of Land Protection and Revitalization (formerly the Waste Division) (Linda Richardson at 804-698-4318) and the Department of Labor and Industry (Ronald L. Graham 804-371-0444) for additional information.</p> <p>5(b) Lead-Based Paint. If applicable, this project must comply with the U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations and with the Virginia Lead-Based Paint Activities Rules and Regulations. For additional information regarding these requirements, contact the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (David Dick at 804-367-8588).</p> <p>5(c) Coordination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (Jerry Hoover, Regional Project Manager, at 215-814-2077) for information concerning Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) obligations at Fort Pickett's Main Post, including establish the nature and extent of any known environmental contamination at or near Fort Pickett, or other Areas of Concern (AOCs) which may be in close proximity to the proposed project. • Conduct the removal, relocation or closure of any regulated petroleum storage tanks – aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) or underground storage tank (USTs) –in accordance with the requirements of the Virginia Tank Regulations 9VAC25-91-10 <i>et seq.</i> for ASTs and 9VAC25-580-10 <i>et seq.</i> for USTs. Documentation and / or questions should be submitted to DEQ BRRO (David Miles at 540-562-6741 or David.Miles@deq.virginia.gov). • Report the installation or use of any portable aboveground petroleum storage tank (> 660 gallons, 9VAC 25-91-10 <i>et seq.</i>) for more than 120 days the DEQ BRRO Petroleum Storage Tank Program (David Miles at 540-562-6741 or David.Miles@deq.virginia.gov). <p>6. Protected Species and Natural Heritage Resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate survey results for Michaux's sumac and bog species with DCR DNH (Rene Hypes at Rene.Hypes@dcr.virginia.gov or 804-371-2708). 	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>No response necessary on this page.</p>
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- Coordinate with VDACS (Keith Tignor at 804-786-8938 or Keith.Tignor@vdacs.virginia.gov) to ensure protection of state-listed plant species and compliance with state protected species legislation as necessary.
- DGIF's database may be accessed at <http://vafwis.org/fwis/> or by contacting DGIF (804-367-6913).
- Contact the DCR DNH (804-371-2708) for an update on natural heritage information if a significant amount of time passes before the project is implemented.
- Coordinate with FWS (Troy Anderson at Troy_Anderson@fws.gov) and DGIF (Amy Ewing at Amy.Ewing@dgif.virginia.gov) to avoid, minimize and mitigate potential impacts for the Northern long-ear bat

7. Historic and Archaeological Resources. Continue to coordinate with DHR (Andrea Kampinen at Andrea.Kampinen@dhr.virginia.gov) as required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

8. Aviation Impacts. Coordinate with the FAA Airport District Office (703-661-1354) regarding Form 7460-1 to ensure compliance with federal regulations or guidelines. Contact DOAv (Scott Denny at Scott.Denny@doav.virginia.gov or 804-236-3632) for additional information and coordination as necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the supplemental draft EIS. Detailed comments of reviewing agencies are attached for your review. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call Julia Wellman at (804) 698-4326.

Sincerely,



Sharon Baxter, Director
Division of Environmental Enhancement

Enclosures

GSA Response

No response necessary on this page.

<p>U.S. General Services Administration Supplemental Draft EIS FASTC DEQ 15-004F Page 24</p> <p>ec: Dennis Morris, Crater PDC Robert A. Crum, Richmond Regional PDC Mary Hickman, Commonwealth Regional Council Gail Moody, Southside PDC James Stegmaier, Chesterfield County Wade Bartlett, Prince Edward County Tracy Gee, Lunenburg County John N. Prosise, Nottoway County Taylor Harvey, Amelia County Charlette T. Woolridge, Brunswick County Kevin Massengill, Dinwiddie County Philip Vannoorbeeck, Town of Blackstone Amy Ewing, DGIF Keith Tignor, VDACS Robbie Rhur, DCR Barry Matthews, VDH Steve Coe, DEQ DLPR Kotur Narasimhan, DEQ DAPC Michael Sexton, DEQ BRRO Roger Kirchen, DHR Tony Watkinson, VMRC Jim Cromwell/Chip Ray, VDOT David Spears, DMME Greg Evans, DOF Scott Denny, DOAV Cotton Puryear, Department of Military Affairs FASTC Project Email Address</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>No response necessary on this page.</p>
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Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DIVISION OF AIR PROGRAM COORDINATION

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMENTS APPLICABLE TO AIR QUALITY

TO: Julia H. Wellman DEQ - OEIA PROJECT NUMBER: 15 - 005F

PROJECT TYPE: STATE EA / EIR FEDERAL EA / EIS SCC

CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION

PROJECT TITLE: U. S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECURITY TRAINING CENTER

PROJECT SPONSOR: GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

PROJECT LOCATION: OZONE ATTAINMENT AREA

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS MAY BE APPLICABLE TO: CONSTRUCTION
 OPERATION

STATE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD REGULATIONS THAT MAY APPLY:

1. 9 VAC 5-40-5200 C & 9 VAC 5-40-5220 E – STAGE I
2. 9 VAC 5-40-5200 C & 9 VAC 5-40-5220 F – STAGE II Vapor Recovery
3. 9 VAC 5-45-780 et seq. – Asphalt Paving operations
4. 9 VAC 5-130 et seq. – Open Burning
5. 9 VAC 5-50-60 et seq. Fugitive Dust Emissions
6. 9 VAC 5-50-130 et seq. - Odorous Emissions; Applicable to _____
7. 9 VAC 5-50-160 et seq. – Standards of Performance for Toxic Pollutants
8. 9 VAC 5-50-400 Subpart _____, Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources, designates standards of performance for the _____
9. 9 VAC 5-80-1100 et seq. of the regulations – Permits for Stationary Sources
10. 9 VAC 5-80-1700 et seq. Of the regulations – Major or Modified Sources located in PSD areas. This rule may be applicable to the _____
11. 9 VAC 5-80-2000 et seq. of the regulations – New and modified sources located in non-attainment areas
12. 9 VAC 5-80-800 et seq. Of the regulations – Operating Permits and exemptions. This rule may be applicable to _____

COMMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE PROJECT:



(Kotur S. Narasimhan)
Office of Air Data Analysis

DATE: January 12, 2015

GSA Response

No response necessary on this page.

Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Ewing, Amy (DGIF)
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 12:52 PM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Cc: Cason, Gladys (DGIF)
Subject: ESSLog# 33324_15-004F_Fort Pickett_Foreign Affairs training Center

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Julia,
The comments I provided in 2012 after review of the EIS for the subject project constitute a valid response regarding this supplemental EIS. Get in touch if you need me to re-send those comments.

Thanks, Amy

Amy Ewing Environmental Services Biologist/FWIS Manager VA Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries
4010 West Broad St. Richmond, VA 23230 804-367-2211 www.dgif.virginia.gov



Think before you print.

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Ewing, Amy (DGIF)
Sent: Friday, November 16, 2012 12:42 PM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Cc: Cason, Gladys (DGIF); nhreview (DCR)
Subject: ESSLog# 33324_12-189F_Foreign Affairs Training Center at Ft. Pickett

We have reviewed the subject project that proposes to construct a training center on approximately 1500 acres on Ft. Pickett in Nottoway County, VA.

According to our records, state Threatened barking treefrogs have been documented from the project area. However, we believe these specimens to have been moved to this site in agricultural supplies and not to be a native population of the species. Therefore, we have determined this project is not likely to result in adverse impacts upon this species.

This project is located within 2 miles of a documented occurrence of a state or federal threatened or endangered plant or insect species and/or other Natural Heritage coordination species. Therefore, we recommend coordination with VDCR-DNH regarding the protection of these resources.

To minimize overall impacts to wildlife and our natural resources, we offer the following comments about development activities: We recommend that the applicant avoid and minimize impacts to undisturbed forest, wetlands, and streams to the fullest extent practicable. Avoidance and minimization of impact may include relocating stream channels as opposed to filling or channelizing as well as using, and incorporating into the development plan, a natural stream channel design and wooded buffers. We recommend maintaining undisturbed naturally vegetated buffers of at least 100 feet in width around all on-site wetlands and on both sides of all perennial and intermittent streams. We recommend maintaining wooded lots to the fullest extent possible. We generally do not support proposals to mitigate wetland impacts through the construction of stormwater management ponds, nor do we support the creation of in-stream stormwater management ponds. We are willing to assist the applicant in developing a plan that includes open-space, wildlife habitat, and natural stream channels which retain their wooded buffers.

We recommend that the stormwater controls for this project be designed to replicate and maintain the hydrographic condition of the site prior to the change in landscape. This should include, but not be limited to, utilizing bioretention areas, and minimizing the use of curb and gutter in favor of grassed swales. Bioretention areas (also called rain gardens) and grass swales are components of Low Impact Development (LID). They are designed to capture stormwater runoff as close to the source as possible and allow it to slowly infiltrate into the surrounding soil. They benefit natural resources by filtering pollutants and decreasing downstream runoff volumes.

We recommend that all tree removal and ground clearing adhere to a time of year restriction protective of resident and migratory songbird nesting from March 15 through August 15 of any year.

We recommend adherence to erosion and sediment controls during ground disturbance.

Thanks, Amy

Amy Ewing | Environmental Services Biologist | VDGIF - Richmond HQ | 4010 West Broad St. Richmond, VA 23230 | 804-367-2211 | www.dgif.virginia.gov

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Coe, Stephen (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 10:55 AM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Cc: Thirunagari, Sanjay (DEQ)
Subject: EIR Proj 15-004F GSA Security Training Ctr Ft Pickett

Julia,

I have reviewed the submittal on the above project which was previously reviewed in 2012. The overall scope of the project has been reduced somewhat but the comments offered in 12-189F are still relevant.

Do you need anything else from me?

Steve Coe
Program Coordinator - Recycling & Waste Tire Management
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
629 E. Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219
Toll Free: 1-800-592-5482
Direct: 804-698-4029 Fax: 804-698-4224
Email: steve.coe@deq.virginia.gov
Web Site: www.deq.virginia.gov

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT



MEMORANDUM

TO: Julia Wellman, DEQ/EIR Environmental Program Planner
FROM: Steve Coe, Division of Land Protection & Revitalization Review Coordinator
DATE: November 14, 2012
COPIES: Sanjay Thirunagari, DLP&R Review Manager
EIR File
SUBJECT: EIR – No. 12-189FS - Foreign Affairs Training Center Fort Pickett, Nottoway County, VA 23824 – DEQ Review

The Division of Land Protection & Revitalization has completed its review of the Environmental Impact Report for the Foreign Affairs Training Center Fort Pickett, Nottoway County, VA 23824. Project description: acquisition of land and the development of a consolidated Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) in Nottoway County.

We have the following comments concerning the waste issues associated with this project:

The report submitted for the EIR addressed potential solid waste and/or hazardous waste issues. The report indicates a thorough review of potential environmental issues related to the parcels identified for development. The report appears to indicate that DEQ's databases and DLPR files were searched, and indicates that DEQ offices had been contacted about possible ground contamination concerns. The DLPR staff has conducted a cursory review of its database files under zip code 23824 including a VEGIS database search (within a 0.5 mile radius) of the project site and identified the information below. DEQ's Federal Facilities Program was contacted for a review of this determination and staff comments are included in our review. The sites identified are for reference as their proximity to the subject site is unknown.

RCRA/Hazardous Waste Facilities - fifteen in zip code 23824, five in close proximity to the identified parcels

- 1) BRAC Property Fort Pickett, 403 Military Road, Blackstone, VA 23824. ID# 0213720931. Contact: Francis Gilmore at 434-292-3317.
- 2) Fort Pickett USARC AMSA No. 88, Bldg 564 Kemper Avenue, Blackstone, VA 23824. ID# VAR000005553. Contact: Michele Brown at 804-233-6473.
- 3) MTC Fort Pickett, VAARNG-FM-E, Bldg 234, Blackstone, VA 23824. ID# VAD988228359. Contact: David K. Short at 434-292-2144.
- 4) VAARNG-ARMORY-Blackstone, N. High Street, Blackstone, VA 23824. ID# VAD982677429. Contact: Pamela W. Coleman at 434-298-6445.
- 5) VIP & SU Southern Piedmont AES, Highway 40 East, Blackstone, VA 23824. ID# 988224937. Contact: Jack Nunes at 540-231-8758.

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

<p><u>CERCLA Sites</u> – one</p> <p>Fort Pickett, Kemper Avenue, Blackstone, VA 23824. EPA ID 2210020705. Not NPL.</p> <p>The following websites may prove helpful in locating additional information for these identification numbers: http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/cursites/index.htm or http://www.epa.gov/enviro/html/rcris/rcris_query_java.html.</p> <p><u>FUDs Sites</u> – two</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>FUDS#</th> <th>FFID</th> <th>Property Name</th> <th>Locality</th> <th>INPR Results</th> <th>Hazards Found</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C03VA0028</td> <td>VA9799F7770</td> <td>Fort Picket Mil Resv</td> <td>Blackstone,</td> <td>E</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C03VA0220</td> <td>VA9899F1674</td> <td>Ft Pickett A ARPT</td> <td>Blackstone</td> <td>E</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The DEQ's Federal Facilities Restoration Program reviewed this submittal and it appears that the project will not impact any sites at Fort Pickett (Environmental Restoration Program, Base Realignment and Closure, and Formerly Used Defense Sites). If the project manager or engineer has questions, they should contact Mr. Jerry Hoover, Regional Project Manager, at (215) 814-2077 for information concerning Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) obligations at Fort Pickett's Main Post. Mr. Hoover, or his designee, should be contacted to establish the nature and extent of any known environmental contamination at or near Fort Pickett, or other Areas of Concern (AOCs) which may be in close proximity to the proposed project.</p> <p><u>Solid Waste Facilities</u> – one</p> <p>SWP333 – U.S. Army Fort Pickett, Closed Sanitary Landfill, Rives Road at 9th Street, Blackstone, VA 23824.</p> <p><u>VRP Sites</u> -none</p> <p><u>Petroleum Release Sites</u> – one</p> <p>ID# 20112039 – Grant Residence, 39 Maple Lane, Blackstone, VA 23824. Event Date: 10/25/2010. Status: Closed.</p> <p><u>GENERAL COMMENTS</u></p> <p><u>Soil, Sediment, and Waste Management</u></p> <p>Any soil that is suspected of contamination or wastes that are generated must be tested and disposed of in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations. Some of the applicable state laws and regulations are: Virginia Waste Management Act, Code of Virginia Section 10.1-1400 <i>et seq.</i>; Virginia Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (VHWMR) (9VAC 20-60); Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations (VSWMR) (9VAC 20-81); Virginia Regulations for the Transportation of Hazardous Materials (9VAC 20-110). Some of the applicable Federal laws and regulations are: the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), 42 U.S.C. Section 6901 <i>et seq.</i>, and the applicable regulations contained in Title 40</p>	FUDS#	FFID	Property Name	Locality	INPR Results	Hazards Found	C03VA0028	VA9799F7770	Fort Picket Mil Resv	Blackstone,	E	N	C03VA0220	VA9899F1674	Ft Pickett A ARPT	Blackstone	E	Y	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.</p>
FUDS#	FFID	Property Name	Locality	INPR Results	Hazards Found														
C03VA0028	VA9799F7770	Fort Picket Mil Resv	Blackstone,	E	N														
C03VA0220	VA9899F1674	Ft Pickett A ARPT	Blackstone	E	Y														

<p>of the Code of Federal Regulations; and the U.S. Department of Transportation Rules for Transportation of Hazardous Materials, 49 CFR Part 107.</p> <p>Also, all structures being demolished/renovated/ removed should be checked for asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and lead-based paint (LBP) prior to demolition. If ACM or LBP are found, in addition to the federal waste-related regulations mentioned above, State regulations 9VAC 20-80-640 for ACM and 9VAC 20-60-261 for LBP must be followed. The local DEQ office contact for questions is Mr. Kyle Winter at (804) 527-5052.</p> <p>Please note that any contaminated media which is generated from the facility project site is the responsibility of the subject site facility which must ensure that contaminated media undergoes proper management, storage, treatment, and disposal in accordance with the above noted State Regulations. Questions regarding the proper management of solid and/or hazardous waste as well as dredge spoils should be directed to the DEQ's Piedmont Regional Office (http://www.deq.virginia.gov/regions/piedmont.html).</p> <p><u>Pollution Prevention – Reuse - Recycling</u></p> <p>Please note that DEQ encourages all construction projects and facilities to implement pollution prevention principles, including the reduction, reuse, and recycling of all solid wastes generated. All generation of hazardous wastes should be minimized and handled appropriately.</p> <p>If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Steve Coe at (804) 698-4029.</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.</p>
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Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

Molly Joseph Ward
Secretary of Natural Resources

Clyde E. Cristman
Director



Joe Elton
Deputy Director of Operations

Rochelle Alholz
Deputy Director of Administration
and Finance

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804)786-6124

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 27, 2015
TO: Julia Wellman, DEQ
FROM: Roberta Rhur, Environmental Impact Review Coordinator
SUBJECT: DEQ 15-004F, Foreign Affairs Training Center, Fort Pickett

Division of Natural Heritage

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Natural Heritage (DCR) has searched its Biotics Data System for occurrences of natural heritage resources from the area outlined on the submitted map. Natural heritage resources are defined as the habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species, unique or exemplary natural communities, and significant geologic formations.

According to the information we have currently in our files, the Fort Pickett Impact Area is within the project vicinity. Conservation sites are tools for representing key areas of the landscape that warrant further review for possible conservation action because of the natural heritage resources and habitat they support. Conservation sites are polygons built around one or more rare plant, animal, or natural community designed to include the element and, where possible, its associated habitat, and buffer or other adjacent land thought necessary for the element's conservation. Conservation sites are given a biodiversity significance ranking based on the rarity, quality, and number of element occurrences they contain; on a scale of 1-5, 1 being most significant. Fort Pickett Impact Area Conservation Site has been given a biodiversity significance ranking of B1, which represents a site of outstanding significance. The natural heritage resource of concern at this site is:

Rhus michauxii Michaux's sumac G2G3/S1/LE/LT

Michaux's sumac is a dioecious shrub that grows from 0.3 – 0.6 m tall (NatureServe 2011). This plant occurs in sandy or rocky, open, hardwood-dominated forests and savannas (Van Alstine and Smith, 1995), sometimes in association with circumneutral soils. It is dependent upon some form of disturbance to maintain its open habitat (NatureServe 2011). Periodic, naturally occurring fires provided such disturbance historically; however, today many of this plant's occurrences are in areas artificially disturbed such as highway, powerline and railroad rights-of-way, edges of cultivated fields, and other cleared lands. In Virginia, all but one of the known occurrences are located within Fort Pickett in the southern Piedmont

*State Parks • Soil and Water Conservation • Outdoor Recreation Planning
Natural Heritage • Dam Safety and Floodplain Management • Land Conservation*

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

<p>where it is maintained by frequent fires. The major threats to Michaux's sumac include fire suppression and habitat degradation (NatureServe 2011). The optimal survey time period for Michaux's sumac is during the period of flowering / fruiting from June 1 – October 31 when the plant has higher visibility, but the plant can be identified as long as the leaves are present from May 1 – October 31.</p> <p>Please note that this species is currently classified as endangered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and listed as threatened by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS).</p> <p>In addition, according to John Townsend DCR Botanist potential exists for bog species such as Rafinesque's seedbox (<i>Ludwigia hirtella</i>, G5/S1/NL/NL) and Velvety sedge (<i>Carex vestita</i>, G5/S2/NL/NL) in the wetlands located in the western part of the project area.</p> <p>Rafinesque's seedbox a state rare perennial herb, inhabits savannas and boggy seepage swales and has been documented in such disturbed areas as powerline rights-of-way (TNC, 1996). This species blooms from June to September (Weakley, in prep.). In Virginia, Rafinesque's seedbox is currently known from six locations in the coastal plain region.</p> <p>Velvety sedge, a state rare sedge species, occurs in low forests (Weakley, in prep.), seepage wetlands and seasonally wet conditions. It has been documented in such disturbed areas as powerline rights-of-way (TNC, 1996). This plant blooms during April and May (Weakley, in prep.). Velvety sedge is currently known from eight locations within the coastal plain and eastern piedmont regions of Virginia, of which one is a historic occurrence.</p> <p>Due to the potential for this site to support populations of Michaux's sumac and rare bog species, DCR recommends an inventory for these resources in the study area. With the survey results we can more accurately evaluate potential impacts to natural heritage resources and offer specific protection recommendations for minimizing impacts to the documented resources.</p> <p>DCR-Division of Natural Heritage biologists are qualified and available to conduct inventories for rare, threatened, and endangered species. Please contact J. Christopher Ludwig, Natural Heritage Inventory Manager, at chris.ludwig@dcr.virginia.gov or 804-371-6206 to discuss arrangements for field work. A list of other individuals who are qualified to conduct inventories may be obtained from the USFWS.</p> <p>Also according to the Bat Survey Report conducted for the proposed Foreign Affairs Security Training Center dated October 31, 2014, the Northern long -ear bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>) has been documented within the project area. This species is currently proposed for listing with exemptions by USFWS and therefore DCR recommends coordination with USFWS and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) to avoid, minimize and mitigate potential impacts for this candidate species.</p> <p>Under a Memorandum of Agreement established between the VDACS and the DCR, DCR represents VDACS in comments regarding potential impacts on state-listed threatened and endangered plant and insect species. Survey results should be coordinated with DCR-DNH and USFWS. Upon review of the results, if it is determined the species is present, and there is a likelihood of a negative impact on the species, DCR-DNH will recommend coordination with VDACS to ensure compliance with Virginia's Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act.</p> <p>There are no State Natural Area Preserves under DCR's jurisdiction in the project vicinity.</p> <p>New and updated information is continually added to Biotics. Please contact DCR for an update on this natural heritage information if a significant amount of time passes before it is utilized.</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.</p>
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<p>The VDGIF maintains a database of wildlife locations, including threatened and endangered species, trout streams, and anadromous fish waters that may contain information not documented in this letter. Their database may be accessed from http://vafwis.org/fwis/ or contact Gladys Cason (804-367-0909 or Gladys.Cason@dgif.virginia.gov).</p> <p>The remaining DCR divisions have no comments regarding the scope of this project. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p> <p>CC: Troy Andersen, USFWS Ernie Aschenbach, VDGIF</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Literature Cited</p> <p>The Nature Conservancy. 1996. Biological and Conservation Data System. Arlington, Virginia, USA.</p> <p>NatureServe. 2011. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available http://www.natureserve.org/explorer. (Accessed: November 29, 2011).</p> <p>Van Alstine, N.E. and T.L. Smith. 1995. Distribution of <i>Rhus michauxii</i> of Fort Pickett, Virginia. Natural Heritage Technical Report 95-15. Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Natural Heritage, Richmond, VA. Unpublished report submitted to the U.S. Army. October 1995. 65 pp.</p> <p>Weakley, A.S. In prep. <i>Flora of the Carolina's and Virginia</i>. The Nature Conservancy, Southeastern Regional Office.</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>No response necessary on the page.</p>
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Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Sexton, Michael (DEQ)
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2015 2:52 PM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Cc: Hurst, Jeffrey (DEQ); Boggs, Cody (DEQ); Farahmand, Aziz (DEQ)
Subject: GSA: Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (15-004F)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Julia,

As we discussed today, this project is a supplemental EIS for a project the agency reviewed back in 2012 (12-189F). The supplemental EIS discusses a scaled down project. For example, the total building space is reduced from 2.5 to 0.7 million square feet and number of parcels are reduced from 4 to 3. It does not appear that any new activities or impacts would be generated beyond those identified previously. In addition, the GSA addressed the agency's previous comments in Appendix K of the supplemental EIS. As such, I have no additional technical comments.

Administratively, the DEQ should inform the GSA that we now oversees the erosion and sedimentation and the stormwater management programs rather than DCR. Questions or permits relating to these programs should be directed to Cody Boggs at (540)562-6740.

If you need anything else or have questions on this review, just let me know.

Michael D. Sexton

Groundwater Remediation Specialist
Department of Environmental Quality
Blue Ridge Regional Office - Lynchburg
(434)582-6233
www.deq.virginia.gov

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Howard, Janine (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:43 AM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Cc: Gagnon, Scott, P.E. (VDOT)
Subject: FW: NEW PROJECT GSA 15-004F
Attachments: GSA 15-004F ERR Form.pdf; FASTC TIA Cmnts-Attach, 11-15-12.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Julia,

This was meant for you I believe.

Janine Howard
Environmental Impact Review Coordinator

Office of Environmental Impact Review
Division of Environmental Enhancement
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
629 E. Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

t: (804) 698-4299
f: (804) 698-4032

From: Gagnon, Scott, P.E. (VDOT)
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 2:57 PM
To: Howard, Janine (DEQ)
Cc: Jordan, Elizabeth (VDOT); Ray, Alfred C. (VDOT); Cromwell, James R. (VDOT); Hinson, Paul (VDOT); Agnello, Paul (VDOT); Svejkovsky, Ronald (VDOT)
Subject: FW: NEW PROJECT GSA 15-004F

Janine

We have taken a look at the reduced scope of the proposed FAST-C (compared to what we reviewed in 2012 and 2014) and while the transportation impacts may be slightly less than what was studied in previous submittals our comments are still in effect (Attached above).

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Thanks!

Thanks

Scott

From: Jordan, Elizabeth (VDOT)
Sent: Tuesday, January 13, 2015 10:47 AM
To: Gagnon, Scott, P.E. (VDOT); Youngblood, Rick D. (VDOT)

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

Cc: Ray, Alfred C. (VDOT); Cromwell, James
Subject: FW: NEW PROJECT GSA 15-004F

DATE: January 13, 2015
TO: District Transportation Planning
PROJECT: GSA: U.S. Department of State, Foreign Affairs Security Training Center
DEQ PROJECT: 15-004F
LOCATION: Various Counties in/12/2015 VA
SUBJECT: Environmental Impact Review

Please review project materials for impacts to existing and proposed transportation facilities, and send any comments you might have to Janine Howard (Janine.Howard@deq.virginia.gov) by **February 2, 2015**, copying myself, Jim Cromwell, and Chip Ray.

Thank you in advance,

Liz

Elizabeth G. Jordan, Ph.D.
Environmental Program Planner
Virginia Department of Transportation
804-371-0877
Elizabeth.Jordan@VDOT.Virginia.gov

From: Fulcher, Valerie (DEQ)
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2015 9:53 AM
To: dgif-ESS Projects (DGIF); Tignor, Keith (VDACS); Rhur, Robbie (DCR); odwreview (VDH); Coe, Stephen (DEQ); Narasimhan, Kotur (DEQ); Gavan, Larry (DEQ); Sepety, Holly (DEQ); Nicholson, Shantelle (DEQ); Sexton, Michael (DEQ); Kirchen, Roger (DHR); Spears, David (DMME); Kline, Everette (DOF); Evans, Gregory (DOF); Ray, Alfred C. (VDOT); Cromwell, James R. (VDOT); Jordan, Elizabeth (VDOT); gmoody@southsidepdc.org; mhickman@virginiasheartland.org; stewart@richmondregional.org; dmorris@craterpdc.org; planning@chesterfield.gov; cwoolridge@brunswickco.com; Massengill, kevin k w; phillip@townofblackstoneva.com; nottoway@nottoway.org; wbartlett@co.prince-edward.va.us; taylor.harvie@ameliacova.com; tgee@lunenburgva.net; Smead, Susan E NFG NG VAARNG (US); Denny, S. Scott (DOAV)
Cc: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Subject: NEW PROJECT GSA 15-004F

Good morning - attached is a new EIR review request/ project:

GSA: U.S. Department of State, Foreign Affairs
Security Training Center, DEQ #15-004F

The document is available at www.deq.virginia.gov/filesshare/oeir under "GSA State Department FASTC Supplemental DEIS".

The due date for comments is **FEBRUARY 2, 2015**. You can send your comments either directly to Julia by email (Julia.Wellman@deq.virginia.gov), or you can send your comments by regular interagency/U.S. mail

2

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
RICHMOND DISTRICT
2430 Pine Forest Drive
COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VA 23834
www.VDOT.Virginia.gov

Gregory A. Whirley
COMMISSIONER

November 15, 2012

Abigail Low, Project Manager
U.S. General Services Administration
20 N 8th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

**RE: Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) at Fort Pickett
Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) Report dated 10/8/12
Virginia Department of Transportation (Department) Comments**

Dear Ms. Low:

As part of a technical study associated with an Environmental Impact Statement, in determining the impacts of the proposed FASTC development on the surrounding transportation system, developed was the subject TIA. Submitted by the US General Services Administration (GSA) on October 22, 2012 for Department comment is that TIA prepared by Timmons Group.

In anticipation of issuance of the preceding TIA formal comments, a meeting was held between the Department and representatives from the GSA, Timmons Group, Department of State (DOS) and CardnoTEC on November 8, 2012 to discuss the preliminary findings. Summarizing the findings and meeting discussion, noted below are the Department's comments.

The Department has evaluated the TIA in accordance with §15.2-2222.1 of the Code of Virginia and the Virginia Traffic Impact Analysis Regulations, 24 VAC 30-155 (also known as Chapter 527) and finds that the report conforms to the requirements of Chapter 527 in regard to the accuracy of the methodologies, assumptions and findings/conclusions presented in the analysis. Considered in the evaluation were impacts to only those intersections/roadways maintained by the Department.

Project Details

Proposed is the establishment of a Diplomatic Security consolidated training center by the GSA and DOS to be located within and adjacent to the Fort Pickett National Guard Maneuver Training Center (Fort Pickett) currently occupied by the Virginia Army National Guard. The purpose of the

WE KEEP VIRGINIA MOVING

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

Ms. Low
November 15, 2012
Page 2 of 6

facility is to provide skills to foreign affairs staff, Diplomatic Security agents, Foreign Services officers and other personnel.

The project construction timeline, training center alternatives and traffic generation are as follows:

- Training center construction is proposed in three phases. Those phases and anticipated completion dates are as follows: Phase 1 – 2017, Phase 2 – 2018 and Phase 3 – 2020 (buildout).
- The report analysis considers the completion years of each Phase 1 (2017) and Phase 3 (2020); Phase 2 work will not result in any traffic increase as proposed are only site improvements.
- Two build alternatives are considered in each phase; Build Alternative 1 and 2. Impacts to study intersections differ with each Build Alternative
- Site generated traffic at buildout is anticipated at 3,512 ADT; applicable to both Build Alternatives 1 and 2. The number of employees/students is the same for both.
- Access to the Fort will be through two entrances/checkpoints: Main Gate (Route 750 Military Road) and the West Gate (Route 643 West Entrance Road).

Study Intersections

The following state maintained TIA report study areas were reviewed by the Department (study intersections as numbered on report Fig 1-2):

Outside the Fort Pickett Reservation Boundary Limits:

- 1 Route 460 and Cox Road (Rt 460 Bus)

Within the Fort Pickett Reservation Boundary Limits:

- 2 Cox Road (Rt 460 Bus) and Military Road (Rt 750)
- 3 Darvills Rd. (Rt 40) and Military Road (Rt 750)
- 6 Military Rd (Fort) and Route 756 (Garnett Avenue)
- 8 Warehouse St. (Fort) and Rt 753 (West 10th St.)

Study areas 4, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 11 as indicated on the figure were not reviewed by the Department as they do not impact state maintained roadways/intersections.

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

Ms. Low
November 15, 2012
Page 3 of 6

Current and No-Build Intersection Impacts

Existing and future traffic volumes without the proposed training center result in all state maintained study intersections operating at an acceptable level of service (LOS) during the AM and PM peak hours. No intersection improvements warranted.

2017 (Phase 1) Build Alternative 1 and 2 Intersection Impacts

All state maintained study intersections will operate at an acceptable LOS during the AM and PM peak hours with the anticipated Phase 1 site generated traffic. However, turn lane improvements in accordance with Department warrants only are recommended at three of the state maintained intersections.

2020 (Phase 2) Build Alternative 1 and 2 Intersection Impacts

State maintained intersections 1 and 3 are shown to experience an unacceptable LOS with Phase 2 site generated traffic. To address the unacceptable level service, turn lane improvements and intersection signage/flashing beacon alterations are recommended. Turn lane improvements are subsequently proposed at intersection 2 with the anticipated traffic as Department warrants are met.

Mitigation Measures

The Department concurs with the study approach and conclusions on the report mitigation measures for the noted state maintained intersections:

- *Intersection 1 - Rt 460 at Cox Rd. (Rt 460 Bus)*
 - Phase 1 Rt 460 WB LTL/Taper extension – 350' lane/200' taper
 - Phase 2 Rt 460 WB LTL/Taper extension – 500' lane/200' taper
 - Rt 460 Bus NB Left-Thru construction – 200' lane/200' taper
- *Intersection 2 - Cox Rd. (Rt 460 Bus) at Military Rd. (Rt 750)*
 - Phase 1 Rt 460 Bus WB LTL/Taper construction – 200' lane/200' taper
 - Phase 2 Same Phase 1 improvements
- *Intersection 3 - Darvills Rd. (Rt 40) at Military Rd. (Rt 750)*
 - Phase 1 Rt 40 EB RTL/Taper extension – 200' lane/200' taper

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

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Phase 2 Rt 40 EB RTL/Taper extension – 200' lane/200' taper
 Rt 750 NB LTL/Taper extension – 200' lane/200' taper
 Rt 750 NB RT Taper extension – 200'
 Overall Intersection - Stop control changes – switch from Rt 750 approaches to Rt 40 approaches
 Overall Intersection – Remove existing red flashing beacon and replace with a yellow and red flashing beacon
 Overall Intersection – Install "Stop Ahead" signs on both approaches of Rt 40

No improvements are warranted at state maintained intersections 6 and 8.

VDOT Suggested Improvements

The Department offers the following suggestions, to further mitigate anticipated impacts, with the noted intersection improvements as indicated above.

- *Intersection 1 - Rt 460 at Cox Rd. (Rt 460 Bus)*
 Phase 2 Rt 460 Bus NB - Construction of a 200'/200' RTL/Taper in association with the warranted/proposed NB Left-Thru.
- *Intersection 3 - Darvills Rd. (Rt 40) at Military Rd. (Rt 750)*
 Phase 2 Overall Intersection – Construction of a round-about in lieu of the mitigation measures.

Roadway Abandonment

Under the Build Alternative proposals, construction of the training facility would take place over the existing State maintained routes of 754, 755 and 756. Prior to construction, the noted routes are to be abandoned from the Secondary System of State Highways.

Abandonment would be considered under Code Section 33.1-151 whereby Nottoway County initiates the process with the Department. Attached is a flow chart identifying the abandonment administrative steps involved. Further direction on the process is available in the *Guide for Additions and Abandonments and Discontinuances* found at the following link:

<http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/additionsabandonmentsanddiscontinuances.pdf>

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

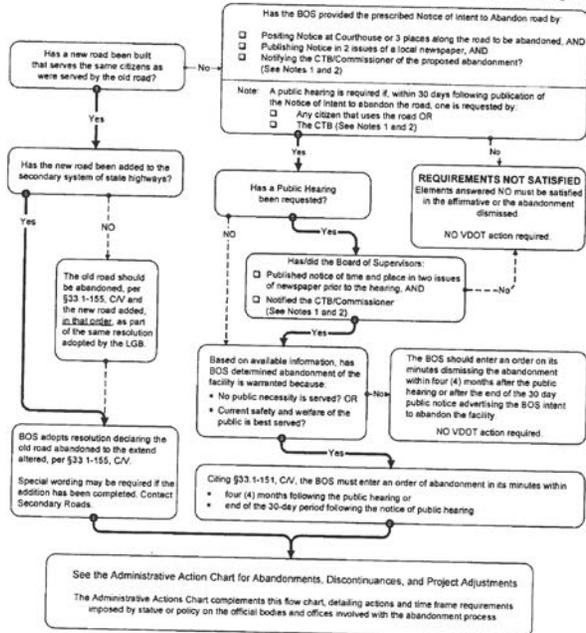
<p>Ms. Low November 15, 2012 Page 5 of 6</p> <p>Department Considerations</p> <p>The Department advises the following items/impacts be considered in moving forward with development of the FASTC facility and in undertaking the mitigation measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Improvements Concurrent with Department UPC 18964</i> – The Department is currently investigating the possibility of incorporating the intersection 1 turn lane improvements identified in both the TIA mitigation measure (NB Left-Thru) and the Department suggested improvement (NB RTL/Taper) into the anticipated Rt 460/Rt 460 Bus intersection work identified on the UPC project. If incorporated, it is anticipated that the work would be complete prior to 2017.• <i>Right-of-Way Acquisition</i> – Mitigation measure intersection improvements may warrant the need to acquire additional right-of-way to accommodate turn lanes. Acquiring the right-of-way may further require negotiations with private land owners possibly adding to the project cost and impacting the schedule. Recommended is early research on the existing right-of-way designation/dedication/width to determine the extent of required acquisition.• <i>VDOT Permitting Requirements</i> – A Land Use Permit issued by the Department is required for all work within the state maintained right-of-way, including for the construction of access to the site from a state route, for the demolition/reconstruction of access points that that adjoin Rt 753 (W. 10th St.) and for any intersection improvement work. A plan identifying the proposed right-of-way work shall be submitted for review/approval prior to permit issuance.• <i>Roadway Abandonment</i> – This item could impact the project schedule as training center construction cannot proceed until the impacted state routes are abandoned. Recommended is early coordination between the Department and Nottoway County on the process of abandoning the roadways, since the abandonment process can take up to 6 months. Note that the process can only proceed with Nottoway County BOS determination that either (1) “no public necessity exists for the continuance of the section of secondary road as a public road” (i.e. lack of public use) or (2) the safety and welfare of the public would be served best by abandoning the section of road”.• <i>Access Management</i> – Although no new access points off of a state maintained route are indicated in the TIA, be advised that should the current concept be revised and a new access proposed, the location of the access shall comply with spacing standards (between other intersections) as outlined in the Department’s Access Management Regulations.• <i>Zoning</i> – Not identified in the report is the current zoning of the land which the improvements are proposed. Confirmed at the November 8 meeting by Timmons was that the property is currently zoned for its intended use.	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.</p>
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<p>Ms. Low November 15, 2012 Page 6 of 6</p> <p>Should you have any questions on the comments, I can be reached at 804-863-4012.</p> <p>As the project moves forward, I'll also be the main point of contact for all project related items that entail Department involvement.</p> <p>Please advise on the need for direction on the abandonment process, access to right-of-way records, or any general assistance on transportation related items as the project moves forward.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>  <p>Brian Lokker, P.E. Area Land Use Engineer, South</p> <p>Attachment – Abandonment Flow Chart CC: J. Bernard (DOS) S. Dunn (Timmons) M. Goodman (GSA) K. Hall (CardnoTEC)</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.</p>
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SRD 2/1/93 – 5th Printing June 2002

ABANDONMENT OF A ROAD FROM THE SECONDARY SYSTEM OF STATE HIGHWAYS UNDER 33.1-151 OR 33.1-155, CODE OF VIRGINIA

The power to abandon a secondary road is vested entirely in the Board of Supervisors of the various counties or equivalent local governing body.



Notes:

1. The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries is to be notified when the proposed abandonment involves a public landing.
2. The Resident Engineer is to notify the Secondary Roads Engineer immediately upon learning of efforts to abandon a secondary road, advising of the circumstances concerning the potential abandonment, and his recommendations.
3. When the road proposed to be abandoned lies in more than one county, the BOS of each county involved must agree on the proposed abandonment. (As a practical matter, this applies to §33.1-151 and §33.1-155, but is cited only under §33.1-151.)
4. Any appeal from a BOS' order of abandonment under §33.1-151 shall lie to the circuit court of the county pursuant to §33.1-152.
5. As a practical matter, when the abandonment (or discontinuance) of an old road is associated with the construction of a new road that serves the same citizens as the old, in the LGB's resolution, the old road is ordered abandoned before the new road is added.
6. Abandonment of a road has the effect of removing the road from the public domain as a public way.
7. When public service is provided, but is not sufficient to justify maintenance as a public expense, a discontinuance, pursuant to §33.1-150, should be considered.

GSA Response

No response necessary on this page.

Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Kampinen, Andrea (DHR)
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 9:26 AM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Subject: GSA Foreign Affairs Security Training Center - DHR File No. 2010-1921/DEQ#15-004F

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

DHR has been in consultation with the *General Services Administration (GSA)* regarding this project. We request that the *GSA* continue to consult directly with DHR, as necessary, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (as amended) and its implementing regulations codified at 36 CFR Part 800 which require Federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertakings on historic properties.

Andrea Kampinen
Architectural Historian, Review and Compliance Division
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221
(804) 482-6084
Fax: (804) 367-2391
andrea.kampinen@dhr.virginia.gov

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

IVED

FEB 03 2015

DEQ-Office of Environmental
Impact Review



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Randall P. Burdette
Executive Director

Department of Aviation
5702 Gulfstream Road
Richmond, Virginia 23250-2422

V/TDD • (804) 236-3624
FAX • (804) 236-3635

ISO 9001:2008 Certified
IS-BAO Registered

February 3, 2015

Ms. Julia Wellman
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
629 East Main Street, 6th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219

RE: U.S. Department of State Foreign Affairs Security Training Center, Federal Project # 15-004F

Dear Ms. Wellman:

Following our review of the information package for which you provided a link, staff reviewed our previous comments issued for this project under DEQ Project # 12-189F. We found those comments still applicable. Since this effort has been done under a separate project number, staff will expand upon the original comments.

1. A 7460 form is required for any development within 20,000' linear feet of the Blackstone Army Airfield or any portion of the development that will exceed 200' above ground level.
2. Efforts should be taken by the project sponsor to limit the dust/glare generated from this proposed project site that could potentially negatively impact aircraft operations.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact me at (804) 236-3632.

Sincerely,


S. Scott Denny
Senior Aviation Planner

100 DOAVAS 20150203 BKT DEQ Project # 15-004F



GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

Bettina Ring
State Forester



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 800
Charlottesville VA 22903
434.977.6555 ~ Fax: 434.296.2369
www.dof.virginia.gov

February 2, 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR: Ms. Julia H. Wellman, Department of Environmental Quality Office of Environmental Impact Review
FROM: Greg Evans, Department of Forestry, Forestland Conservation Division
SUBJECT: DOF Comments Regarding the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for U.S. Department of State Foreign Affairs Security Training Center, Nottoway County, Virginia

I have completed a desk review of the above subject project on behalf of the Department of Forestry. Based on the information provided, the supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) appears to have considered and addressed many of the concerns previously expressed by DOF in its comments on the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) submitted to DEQ on November 28, 2012.

1. The DEIS called for the removal of 525 acres of heavily forested land. This included areas within identified project parcels LRA 10 and 21/20 that DOF determined to have a high forest conservation value [FCV] (4 out of possible 5 ranking) employing the DOF In-FOREST GIS analysis tool and evaluation methodology. DOF recommended a mitigation plan be developed to reduce the amount of forestland that would be lost. Under the SEIS, the projected forest loss has been reduced to 365 acres of which 87 acres of forestland will be restored reducing the permanent forest loss still further to 278 acres. This mitigation response represents a 47 percent reduction in forest loss through avoidance.
2. The DEIS included LRA parcel 10 which DOF analysis showed contains high FCV areas because it is a second growth mixed forest that has been subject to very little previous development, it is part of a larger contiguous forest, and its western edge abuts a wetland area that may have water quality value for the adjacent residential areas. DOF noted in its DEIS comments that information pertaining to plans for LRA parcel 10 was vague and requested additional information. The SEIS has dropped LRA parcel 10 from the project footprint design. The parcel will not be developed.
3. Unfragmented forest blocks within the study area have now been identified to document areas that may provide important habitat to forest dependent species. Deciduous, coniferous, and mixed forests dominate the land cover on Parcel 21/20 and it is described as being in excellent condition. The largest forest block on this parcel is approximately 174 acres in size. The second largest is approximately 165 acres. The remaining forest blocks are all less than 150 acres in size. In its comments on the DEIS, DOF noted these forested areas and the sponsor has apparently designed around the two large forest blocks. In the SEIS, it is stated that none of the forested areas on the 21/20 Grid Parcel are large enough to be valuable to forest interior species. In addition, one forest block located on the westernmost portion of LRA Parcel 9, is also large enough to have moderate

Mission: We Protect and Develop Healthy, Sustainable Forest Resources for Virginians.

GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

<p>value to forest interior species. This forest block is approximately 154 acres. The SEIS however, does not comment on the LRA Parcel 9.</p> <p>This concludes DOF's comments</p> <p>Gregory C. Evans Voluntary Mitigation Program Manager VA Department of Forestry 900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 800 Charlottesville, VA 22903 434-906-3658</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.</p>
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Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015
ATTACHMENT

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Mark Bittner [mbittner@craterpdc.org]
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2015 2:04 PM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Cc: 'Dennis Morris'
Subject: US Department of State, Foreign Affairs Security Training Center - DEQ Project # 15-004F

Dear Ms. Wellman:

Thank you for submitting information concerning the US Department of State, Foreign Affairs Security Training Center - DEQ Project # 15-004F.

Based upon the Crater Commission's staff review, we find the proposal to be in full accord with the Crater Planning District Commission's environmental policy directives.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark Bittner



GSA Response

See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.

<div data-bbox="178 235 373 341"></div> <div data-bbox="388 211 907 276" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><p>Department of Environmental Quality February 20, 2015 ATTACHMENT</p></div> <div data-bbox="178 365 478 389"><p>Planning District Commission</p></div> <div data-bbox="667 365 1012 389"><p>Metropolitan Planning Organization</p></div> <div data-bbox="178 402 304 613"><p>Town of Ashland Counties of Charles City Chesterfield Goochland Hanover Henrico New Kent Powhatan City of Richmond</p></div> <div data-bbox="178 581 304 613"><p>Executive Director Robert A. Crum, Jr.</p></div> <div data-bbox="525 406 667 430"><p>MEMORANDUM</p></div> <div data-bbox="814 406 934 435"><p>RECEIVED</p></div> <div data-bbox="814 446 934 474"><p>FEB 03 2015</p></div> <div data-bbox="793 483 940 516"><p>DEQ-Office of Environmental Impact Review</p></div> <p>TO: Julia H. Wellman Department of Environmental Quality</p> <p>FROM: Barbara V. Jacocks, AICP Director of Planning</p> <p>DATE: February 2, 2015</p> <p>SUBJECT: <u>ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND COMMENT</u></p> <p>Project Title: U.S. Department of State Foreign Affairs Security Training Center Environmental Impact Statement</p> <p>CCN: VA15-0202-3386-0015-00760</p> <p>The RRPDC received a request for comment concerning this proposal on January 12, 2015. RRPDC staff sent the request to staff of planning district member localities on January 21, 2015 in order to solicit comments to include in a comment letter. Any documents associated with the request were made available to locality staff. Response comments from locality staff were requested on or before close of business January 30, 2015.</p> <p>RRPDC did not receive comments from locality staff.</p> <p>RRPDC staff have no concerns with the proposed project so long as necessary conservation and mitigation measures are made to accommodate the habitat of the northern long-eared bat. The proposed project should not contribute to the further endangerment of any species in the Central Virginia area. RRPDC staff are pleased to see the anticipated economic benefits for Chesterfield County</p> <p>Signature  Barbara V. Jacocks, AICP Director of Planning</p> <p>BVJ/sgs</p> <p>9211 Forest Hill Avenue, Suite 200 • Richmond, Virginia 23235 • Telephone: (804) 323-2033 • Fax: (804) 323-2025 www.richmondregional.org</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>See responses to C1 VDEQ February 20, 2015.</p>
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LOCAL OFFICIALS AND AGENCIES

BLACKSTONE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

318 Church Street ♦ Blackstone, Virginia 23824-1602



February 17, 2015

Dear Sir or Madam:

As the Fire Chief for the Blackstone Volunteer Fire Department I am enthusiastic to see FASTC locate at Fort Pickett. The opportunities this complex will provide our community in jobs and revenue will make a lasting impact for our Town and its citizens. During the discussion about this this proposed project over the last few years, there still remains some uncertainty as to which agency will be providing fire and emergency medical services to this complex.

As a completely volunteer agency we want to make sure we are adequately equipped and are able to meet your expectations if we are the designated agency to provide fire protection. We are also not a licensed EMS transport agency and would further depend on Nottoway County Emergency Squad to provide transportation to the hospital if a medical or traumatic injury should occur. I wish I could guarantee response time to onsite emergencies but being a volunteer agency means that responses are dependent on member availability; availability varies greatly from hour to hour and day to day.

I am aware that discussions have been held regarding Fort Pickett Fire and Rescue providing emergency services but once again there has been no definitive answer of who will be providing coverage. Ensuring adequate coverage is essential for FASTC to have the best protection should an emergency arise. To ensure this, with planned construction beginning in the near future, our agency would greatly appreciate some direction on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "DT" followed by a horizontal line.

Dion G. Tomer, BSN, RN-BC
Fire Chief
Blackstone Volunteer Fire Department

TELEPHONE: (434) 292-3933 ♦ FAX: (434) 292-1184 ♦ EMAIL: MAIL@BLACKSTONEVFD.ORG

GSA Response

L1-A

GSA will continue to coordinate with the Blackstone Volunteer Fire Department regarding fire and emergency medical services needs.

L1-A

INDIVIDUALS

From: [FASTC Team](#)
To: [Abigail Low](#); [Charles Raderstorf](#); [John Bernard](#); [Sharon Heiman](#); [Myles Vaughan](#); [Gina Gillam - ZBA](#); [Christopher DiZebba](#); [Hall, Kathy](#)
Subject: Fwd: FASTC Update: Supplemental Draft EIS and Public Information Meeting
Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2015 8:34:07 AM
Attachments: [Joe Wilkerson.vcf](#)

An email just came in response to one of the email notifications I sent out last week. We're given an updated contact for Century Link. If any of you can't see/read the attachment, here it is:

Joe Wilkerson, Engineer II
434-392-6157 work
Joe.Wilkerson@centurylink.com
1835 Zion Hill Road
Farmville, VA 23901

I'll be sure to put this into the Project Directory today. Below is my draft response to both Mary and Joe for team consideration.

Ms. Howard and Mr. Wilkerson,
Thank you for contacting the FASTC Team and advising us that Mr. Wilkerson is now the point of contact representing Century Link. We will update our files. Thank you.

FASTC Team

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Howard, Mary J** <Mary.Howard@centurylink.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 14, 2015 at 8:05 AM
Subject: RE: FASTC Update: Supplemental Draft EIS and Public Information Meeting
To: FASTC Team <fastc.info@gsa.gov>
Cc: "Wilkerson, Joseph L" <Joe.Wilkerson@centurylink.com>

I have been assigned a new area and will not be handling this project. Please change the CenturyLink contact to Joe Wilkerson; contact information follows.

11-A



Thanks

Mary Howard
CenturyLink Engineer II
Farmville, VA
[434-315-0392](tel:434-315-0392)

GSA Response

I2-A

Comment noted.

From: FASTC Team [mailto:fastc.info@gsa.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 09, 2015 10:45 AM
To: Howard, Mary J
Cc: FASTC.info@gsa.gov
Subject: FASTC Update: Supplemental Draft EIS and Public Information Meeting

This is an update on the U.S. Department of State Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) NEPA process. The project team has completed a Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) per the National Environmental Policy Act at Fort Pickett in Nottoway County Virginia. The team will be publicly releasing the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on Friday, January 9, 2015 and hard copies will be distributed at the following libraries:

- Nottoway County -- Louis Spencer Epes Memorial Library, 415 South Main St, Blackstone, VA
- Amelia County -- James L. Hamner Public Library, 16351 Dunn St, Amelia, VA
- Brunswick County -- Brunswick County Library, 133 W. Hicks St, Lawrenceville, VA
- Dinwiddie County -- Dinwiddie Library, 14103 Boynton Plank Rd, Dinwiddie, VA
- Lunenburg County -- Ripberger Library, 117 South Broad St, Kenbridge, VA
- Prince Edward County -- Prince Edward Community Library, 1303 West 3rd St, Farmville, VA
- Chesterfield County -- Central Library, 9501 Lori Road, Chesterfield, VA
- Mecklenburg County -- Southside Regional Library, 1294 Jefferson Street, Boynton, VA 23917

Additionally, we have a confirmed date for a Public Information Meeting for gathering feedback and formal comments on this Supplemental Draft EIS. It will be held on Monday, January 26 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Auditorium at the Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center in Blackstone, Virginia.

This Public Information Meeting will have representatives from GSA and DOS present to outline the Supplemental Draft EIS report and answer general questions on the FASTC proposal and the EIS process. You are cordially invited to attend.

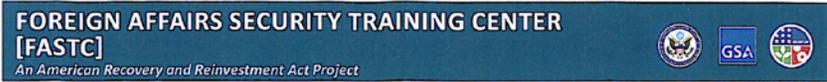
A Newspaper Ad was published today in the Courier-Record, Richmond Times-Dispatch, Dinwiddie Monitor, Kenbridge-Victoria Dispatch, Brunswick Times Gazette and Crewe Burkeville Journal with details of this Public Information Meeting and

the media will be invited.

This communication is the property of CenturyLink and may contain confidential or privileged information. Unauthorized use of this communication is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the communication and any attachments.

GSA Response

No response necessary on this page.



Comment Form
FASTC Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has prepared a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed U.S. Department of State FASTC in Nottoway County. The Supplemental Draft EIS is available at local libraries and on the project website: www.state.gov/recovery/fastc. Please submit your comments on the Supplemental Draft EIS no later than February 23, 2015 by:

- ① Filling out this form and dropping it in the comment box at the public information meeting
- ② Submitting comments electronically via email to: FASTC.info@gsa.gov
- ③ Mailing your comment form to: Ms. Abigail Low, GSA Project Manager, 20 N 8th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Please provide comments no later than February 23, 2015 to ensure they are considered during preparation of the Final Supplemental EIS.

Please Note: The information and comments provided are published in the Final Supplemental EIS and become part of the administrative record associated with this proposed action.

Please check here if you would **NOT** like to be on the Email/ mailing list _____

Please check here if you would like your name and Email/ mailing address kept private (i.e., not published in the Final Supplemental EIS documents)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND LEGIBLY

Name: _____ Date: 1-26-15
 Organization/Affiliation: _____
 Email/Mailing Address: _____
 City, State, Zip Code: _____

Comments: *The presence of this training facility will be good for the community and local economic development. This facility will bring much needed jobs to the community and will bring an influx of people who will frequent and support local businesses. The types of individuals brought into the community for training will be of the desirable type and will not represent what some may call a "bad element."*

(Use reverse side for more space)

GSA Response

I2-A

Comment noted.

I2-A

From: [Abigail Low - 3PCM](#)
To: [Hall, Kathy](#); [Myles Goodman](#)
Subject: Fwd: FASTC Project - FT Pickett
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 11:46:29 AM

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Nunnely II, Charles <cnunnelyii@textronsystems.com>
Date: Wed, Feb 11, 2015 at 11:34 AM
Subject: FASTC Project - FT Pickett
To: "abby.low@gsa.gov" <abby.low@gsa.gov>

Dear Ms. Low,

My name is Chuck Nunnely and I am the Programs Master Scheduler for the FT Pickett operations of Textron Systems Unmanned Systems. We currently occupy leased space within the footprint of the FASTC project.

We are planning for a move from the leased space in the 2015 timeframe as a result of the project's impact on our facilities. I see from the FEB-2015 FASTC EIS brief Critical Path slide that Construction Procurements are expected to begin awarding in the July 2015 timeframe. To help with scheduling our move, do you have a better estimate of when tenants such as ourselves will be impacted by the project. I want to ensure the timeframe for our planned move will result in a smooth transition of our operations. Any help in this area would be greatly appreciated.

I3-A

V/r

Chuck Nunnely

Programs Master Scheduler

AAI Corporation

Textron Systems

Unmanned Systems

GSA Response

I3-A

At this time, GSA is planning start the relocation process for tenants this summer after the EIS is complete and a Record of Decision is issued. GSA hopes to have all tenants relocated in early 2016.

<p>Fort Pickett Virginia 1152 Armistead AVE Blackstone, VA 23824 434-298-0192 (office) 804-372-3401 (cell) cmunnellvii@textronssystem.com www.textronssystem.com</p> <p>Connect with us:</p>  <p>-- Abigail Low Project Executive</p> <p>GSA 20 N. 8th Street Philadelphia, PA 19107 (215) 446-4585</p>	<p>GSA Response</p> <p>No response necessary on this page.</p>
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