

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment

Environmental Assessment for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) Traffic and Utilities Mitigation Prince George's County, Maryland

All Interested Parties: The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 United States Code Section 4321 *et seq.*), herein after known as NEPA, and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations that implement NEPA (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR], Parts 1500 to 1508). NEPA requires that federal agencies consider the potential environmental consequences of proposed and alternative federal actions in their decision-making process.

The Proposed Action consists of traffic and utilities mitigation activities associated with the construction of a replacement currency production facility (CPF) at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). The construction and operation of the replacement CPF was addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Construction and Operation of a CPF in the National Capital Region, and the signed Record of Decision was dated 8 October 2021. The Proposed Action for this supplemental EA includes various improvements to the roadways and seven (7) intersections identified in the EIS as requiring mitigation in order to minimize delays and reduce queue lengths. It also includes utility infrastructure improvements required to accommodate the replacement CPF and additional improvements for the CPF that are outside of the limits of disturbance identified in the EIS. This EA will evaluate the environmental consequences, or lack thereof, that may occur as a result of the Proposed Action and will be prepared in accordance with the NEPA.

The draft EA is available for review and comment for 30 days from publication of this notice. The document can be viewed on the BEP Replacement CPF project website at: <https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/BEP/>. Hard copies of the document can be reviewed at the Prince George's County Public Library, Beltsville Branch and Greenbelt Branch, as well as the Vansville Community Center, during open hours throughout the 30-day public comment period. Interested parties are invited to submit written comments for consideration within 30 days from publication of this notice to: ATTN: BEP EA, US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Baltimore District Planning Division, 2 Hopkins Plaza, 10th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21201; or send via e-mail to: BEP-Updates@usace.army.mil.

On May 13, 2024, BEP will host an in-person public meeting regarding the Draft EA, and invites your participation. The public meeting is scheduled from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm and will be located at the Log Lodge on BARC at 302 Log Lodge Rd, Beltsville, MD 20705. Verbal or written comments on the draft EA will be accepted during the public meeting.

Requests for a printed or electronic copy of the Draft EA should also be sent to the email or postal address provided above. In the event the public meeting needs to be postponed, a message will be posted on the BEP Replacement CPF project website above, and the meeting will instead be held on May 14, 2024 from 6:00pm – 8:00pm at the Log Lodge.