



US Army Corps of Engineers



Public Scoping Meeting

Replacement Currency Production Facility

Environmental Impact Statement

December 3, 2019



About Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP)

- One of nine Bureaus under the Department of the Treasury that is responsible for designing and producing US currency notes
 - Began operating in 1862; became sole producer of US currency in 1877
- BEP operates facilities in Washington, DC and Fort Worth, Texas
- The Washington, DC facility consists of a Main Building, an Annex Building, and a leased warehouse in Landover, Maryland



Main Building
(production facility; circa 1918)



Annex Building
(administrative facility; circa 1938)



Purpose and Need for Proposed Action

- The age and design of the Washington, DC facility limits BEP's manufacturing capability
 - Production occurs on multiple floors and raw materials are stored at another facility, reducing efficiency and impacting worker safety
 - Configuration of space hinders operational flexibility and security
 - Utility and infrastructure systems are functionally inadequate and costly to maintain
- A smaller, more efficient, modern facility would:
 - Streamline operations and improve safety and security
 - Reduce BEP's operational footprint in the DC area by approx. 30%
- 2018 GAO audit agreed that a new facility is the best course of action



Why the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center?

- BEP has studied options for modernization for over a decade
 - 65% of DC employees live in Maryland, with 43% of them living in Prince George’s County
 - Highly skilled workforce can not be replicated outside the DC area
 - Nearly 100 sites and multiple funding options explored
- BEP produces US currency notes at the request of the Federal Reserve Board
 - Currency demand fluctuates
 - New secure design features require specialized equipment and expertise
 - Facility must have ready access to commercial airports and interstate roadways

USDA and Congress support development at BARC.

The 2018 Farm Bill provided Congressional authorization for an interagency land transfer, which is pending further study of the proposed site.



Proposed Action and Alternatives

The Proposed Action would be comparable in function to BEP's Western Currency Facility in Fort Worth, Texas.

- Manufacturing, warehouse, storage, security, and administrative operations
- Approx. 1,440 employees working in shifts (6:30 am, 2:30 pm, and 10:30 pm)
- 850,000 and 1 million square feet
- 30 to 40 feet in height
- Site access from Powder Mill Road
- On-site air and wastewater treatment
- Enhance and incorporate forest buffer zones
- Low Impact Development / Green Infrastructure techniques and designs

At a minimum, the EIS will analyze a Proposed Action Alternative and No Action Alternative.



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Fort Worth, Texas





Proposed Action Activities

- Complete site-specific studies/investigations
- Design and site facility to meet operational, security, and safety standards
- Prepare the site for development
- Install and connect underground utilities and infrastructure
- Construct the facility in sequential phases
- Transition personnel and production operations

Proposed Timeline

- Construction of Proposed Action would start in late-2021 or 2022
- Phased transition of personnel/operations would start in 2025
- The Proposed Action would be fully operational in 2029



Ongoing Studies and Investigations

- Streams and Wetlands
- Soil and Groundwater
- Historic Buildings / Structures
- Archaeological Sites
- Landscapes / Viewsheds
- Traffic and Utilities
- Topography and Geotechnical
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Forest Resources



Other environmental resource areas will also be analyzed for potential impact.



Environmental Resource Areas

Resource areas to be analyzed in the EIS include:

- Land use
- Aesthetics and visual resources
- Air quality
- Noise
- Geology, soils, and topography
- Water resources, including wetlands
- Biological resources
- Cultural resources
- Socioeconomics and environmental justice
- Traffic and transportation
- Utilities
- Hazardous and toxic materials and waste
- Cumulative effects





National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)

- Requires Federal agencies to consider impacts of their proposed actions prior to making any decisions or taking action
- Public participation is an essential part of NEPA
- Major actions with the potential to significantly affect the human environment require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Preparation of an EIS is a multi-step process, with several opportunities for public input





Keys to Providing Meaningful Public Input

- Who:** Interested parties/stakeholders
- What:** ***Substantive*** comments on environmental issues and concerns associated with the Proposed Action
- Why:** To help us focus the NEPA analysis and address your concerns in the EIS
- How and Where:** Here (comment form/stenographer), by mail, or by email BEP-EIS@usace.army.mil
- When:** **Now through December 15, 2019**

Thank you!

Please take this opportunity to:

Meet with BEP and project staff to learn more about the Proposed Action.

Develop a better understanding of what is proposed, and why, as well as potential environmental issues.

Provide us with informed, substantive, specific, and clear comments on your environmental concerns, issues, or ideas **so that we may address them in the EIS.**

To access meeting materials or obtain information updates about the Proposed Action and EIS, visit the project website at

<https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/home/bep-replacement-project>.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in this process!



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Open House