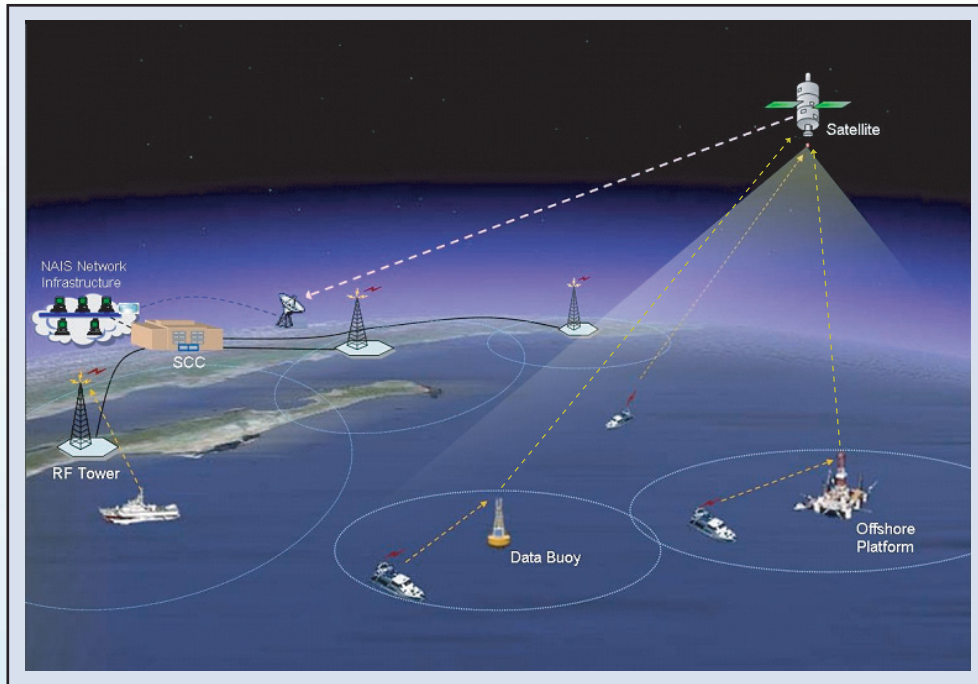




# Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Implementation of the U.S. Coast Guard Nationwide Automatic Identification System Project



**October 2006**



# NAIS

*Providing Vessel Identification, Tracking,  
& Information Exchange Capabilities to Support National Maritime Interests*

## **PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ORGANIZATION**

This Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) provides an assessment of the potential environmental impacts associated with proposed implementation of the U.S. Coast Guard Nationwide Automatic Identification System (NAIS) project.

An **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** briefly describes the Proposed Action and alternatives and summarizes the anticipated environmental impacts.

A list of **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS** is provided following the **TABLE OF CONTENTS**.

**SECTION 1: PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION.** This section briefly identifies the purpose and need for the Proposed Action, defines the project scope, discusses NEPA and the public involvement process, and identifies the organization of the document.

**SECTION 2: PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES** describes the Proposed Action and the alternatives considered, identifies the preferred alternative, and presents a comparison of the environmental effects of the alternatives.

**SECTION 3: AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT** describes the environmental settings in the areas in which the Proposed Action and alternatives would occur.

**SECTION 4: ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES** identifies the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and alternatives on each resource area.

**SECTION 5: CUMULATIVE AND OTHER IMPACTS** discusses the potential cumulative impacts that could result from the impacts of the Proposed Action and alternatives when combined with past, other present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

**SECTION 6: LIST OF PREPARERS** identifies persons who prepared the document and their areas of expertise.

**SECTION 7: REFERENCES** provides a list of cited sources.

### **APPENDICES**

- A International AIS Standards and Domestic AIS Regulations**
- B Public Involvement (Scoping Materials and Public Comments)**
- C Applicable Laws and Executive Orders**
- D Glossary**
- E Air Quality Emissions Calculations**



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U.S. COAST GUARD PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

FOR

Implementation of the U.S. Coast Guard  
Nationwide Automatic Identification System Project

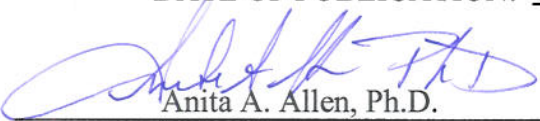
DOT DOCKET NUMBER: USCG-2005-22837

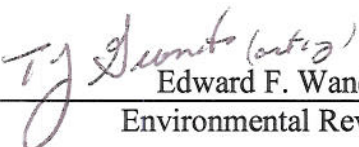
PREPARED BY: engineering-environmental Management, Inc. (e<sup>2</sup>M) for  
Commandant (G-AIS)  
U.S. Coast Guard  
2100 Second Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20593

CONTACT INFORMATION: Anita Allen, Ph.D., USCG Commandant (G-AIS), 202-475-3292

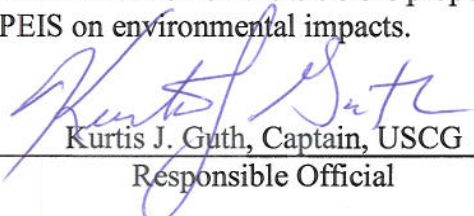
This Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) provides an assessment of the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed implementation of the Nationwide Automatic Identification System (NAIS) project by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). The proposed implementation of the NAIS project would involve installing receivers, transmitters, transceivers, repeaters, and other equipment on towers or other structures at up to 450 sites at locations along 95,000 miles of coastline and inland waterways, as well as the use of selected remote platforms; such as satellites, offshore oil and gas platforms and data buoys. The proposed implementation of the NAIS project is a U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Level I investment and USCG major systems acquisition and would be expected to be fully implemented and operational by 2014. The proposed implementation of the NAIS project would provide the USCG with the capability to receive and distribute information from shipboard AIS equipment and transmit information to AIS equipped vessels to enhance Maritime Domain Awareness. The project would provide detection and identification of vessels carrying AIS equipment approaching or operating in the maritime domain where little or no vessel tracking currently exists.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: October 6, 2006

<u>9/25/06</u> Date	 Anita A. Allen, Ph.D. Preparer/Environmental Project Manager	<u>NAIS Environmental Manager</u> Title/Position
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<u>9-25-06</u> Date	 Edward F. Wandelt Environmental Reviewer	<u>USCG Office of Logistics, Chief, Environmental Management Div.</u> Title/Position
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In reaching my recommendation on the USCG's proposed action, I have considered the information contained in this PEIS on environmental impacts.

<u>9/25/06</u> Date	 Kurtis J. Guth, Captain, USCG Responsible Official	<u>NAIS Project Manager</u> Title/Position
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**PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD  
NATIONWIDE AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM PROJECT**



**Docket Number:** USCG-2005-22837

**Prepared By:** U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and their contractor, engineering-environmental Management, Inc. (e<sup>2</sup>M).

**Contact Information:** Commandant (G-AIS), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593, 202-475-3329, [nais@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:nais@comdt.uscg.mil).

**Abstract:** This Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) provides an assessment of the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed implementation of the Nationwide Automatic Identification System (NAIS) project by the USCG. The proposed implementation of the NAIS project would involve installing receivers, transmitters, transceivers, repeaters, and other equipment on towers or other structures at up to 450 sites at locations along 95,000 miles of coastline and inland waterways, as well as the use of selected remote platforms such as satellites, offshore oil and gas platforms, and data buoys. The proposed implementation of the NAIS project is a U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Level I investment and USCG major systems acquisition and would be expected to be fully implemented and operational by 2014.

The Automatic Identification System (AIS) is an international standard for ship-to-ship, ship-to-shore, and shore-to-ship communication of information, including vessel identity, position, speed, course, destination, and other data of critical interest for navigational safety and maritime security.

The proposed implementation of the NAIS project would provide the USCG with the capability to receive and distribute information from shipboard AIS equipment and transmit information to AIS-equipped vessels to enhance Maritime Domain Awareness. The project would provide detection and identification of vessels carrying AIS equipment approaching or operating in the maritime domain where little or no vessel tracking currently exists.

**Date of Publication:** October 6, 2006





# **PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**FOR**

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD NATIONWIDE AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM PROJECT**

**Prepared for**

**Commandant (G-AIS), U.S. Coast Guard  
2100 Second Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20593**

**Prepared by**



**engineering-environmental Management, Inc.**

**Contract No.: DACA63-03-D-0009 (USACE, Ft. Worth District)  
e<sup>2</sup>M Project No.: 4100-012**

**OCTOBER 2006**

