

Southwest Regional Spaceport Fact Sheet

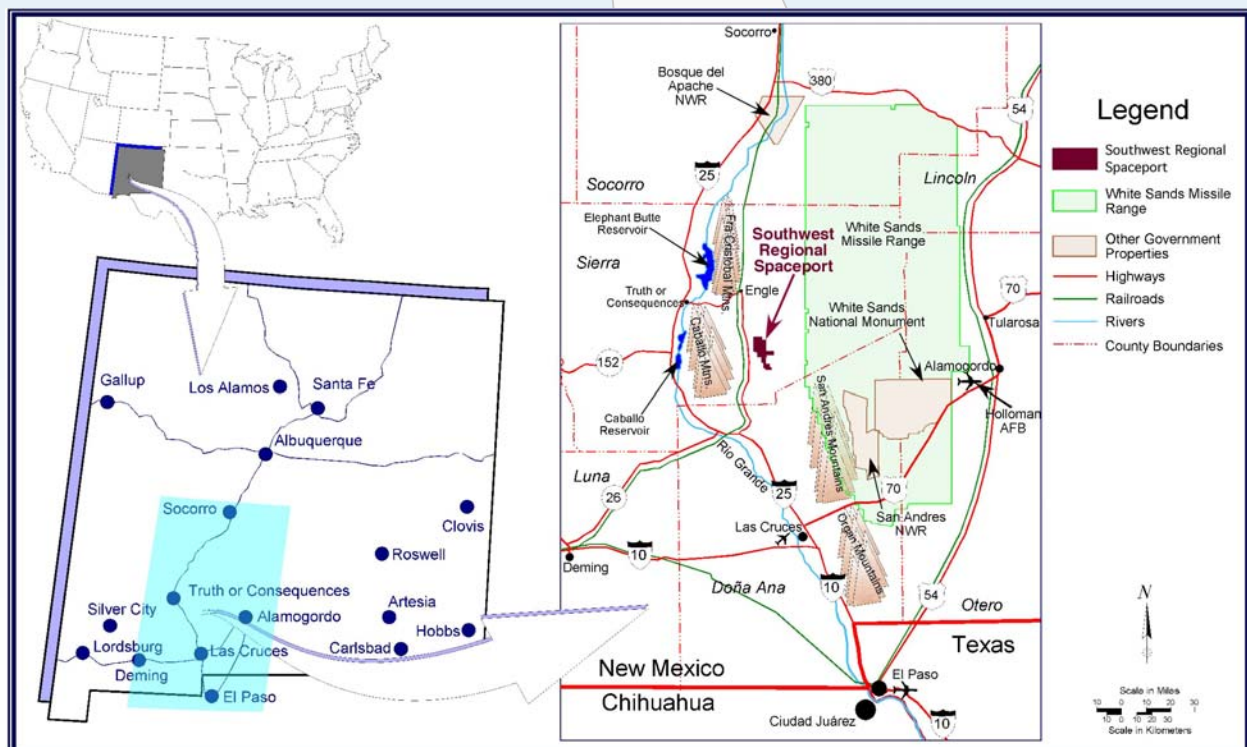
The State of New Mexico proposes to develop and operate a commercial space launch site, the Southwest Regional Spaceport (SRS), at a site located approximately 45 miles north of Las Cruces and 30 miles southeast of Truth or Consequences (see map below). The State proposes to operate this site for horizontal and vertical launches of suborbital reusable launch vehicles that would launch from the SRS and return to the SRS or adjacent lands. Some expendable launch vehicles could be launched from the SRS safely if their components would not fall outside the SRS or adjacent lands, including White Sands Missile Range. To operate a commercial launch facility, the State must obtain a license from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Office of Commercial Space Transportation (AST).

Issuing a license is considered a major Federal action and is subject to environmental review as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). For this proposed action, the FAA will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to meet the requirements of NEPA. The proposed Federal action for this EIS is for the FAA to issue a launch site operator license to the New Mexico Economic Development Department (NMEDD) or its designated state agency. If approved, the FAA license will remain in effect for five years from the date of issuance unless surrendered, suspended, or revoked before the expiration of the term and is renewable upon application by the licensee.



A vertically launched Concept V3 vehicle will be analyzed in the EIS. Concept V3 vehicles consist of a single stage rocket with rocket powered vertical landing. The EIS will analyze a total of six vehicles, three horizontally launched concept vehicles and three vertically launched concept vehicles.

Location of the Proposed SRS with Respect to Surrounding Areas



How to Submit Comments

For More Information

If you are interested in the topics discussed at tonight's meeting, we encourage you to visit the FAA's website available at <http://ast.faa.gov>.

You can request a copy of the Executive Summary or Draft EIS (when available) at the registration table tonight or by one of the methods described below. Please keep in mind that the Draft EIS is likely to be a large document and may include multiple volumes.

The Draft EIS will be available on the FAA's website and paper copies of the Draft EIS will be available in local libraries.



Proposed SRS airfield area, looking southeast



A Concept H2 vehicle is one of three horizontally launched vehicles that will be analyzed in the EIS. Concept H2 vehicles use rocket powered take off and flight and unpowered horizontal landing.

To Submit Comments

If you have written comments on the information provided tonight, please turn in your prepared comments or fill out one of the written comment sheets provided, and turn it in at the registration table before you leave tonight.

Written comments can be mailed by March 3, 2006 to the FAA at:

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Written comments can be faxed by March 3, 2006 to the FAA at (703) 934-3951.

E-mail comments by March 3, 2006 at SRSEIS@icfconsulting.com.