



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND

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Colonel David F. DeMartino  
The Civil Engineer  
266 F Street West  
Randolph AFB TX 78150-4319

The Honorable Raul Grijalva  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Arizona 7th Congressional District  
738 North 5th Avenue, Suite 110  
Tucson, AZ 85705

Dear Representative Grijalva

The U.S. Air Force has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) to assess the potential environmental impacts of establishing F-35 Joint Strike Fighter training aircraft at any of the following locations: Boise Air Terminal Air Guard Station (AGS), also known as Gowen Field, Idaho; Eglin Air Force Base (AFB), Florida; Holloman AFB, New Mexico; Luke AFB, Arizona; or Tucson International Airport AGS, Arizona. The beddown is needed to train pilots and personnel to safely and effectively operate the new F-35A aircraft.

The Draft EIS addresses the potential effects of changes in personnel, construction of facilities, and training activities in existing military airspace and ranges to support the proposed beddown of F-35A aircraft at each of the locations identified above. A no-action alternative was also examined that does not beddown F-35A aircraft at any installation. Airspace training would include the use of defensive flare countermeasures, lasers, and supersonic flight in authorized airspace and use of inert or live munitions at approved military ranges. F-35A training would occur within the current military airspace and ranges of the proposed installations.

Notification of availability of the Draft F-35 Training EIS is planned for release in the *Federal Register* on January 20, 2012. The Air Force will hold several public hearings on the Draft EIS throughout the region of influence from February 6 through 29, 2012. Specific hearing dates, times, and locations will be announced through local and regional media. The document is also available on the following website: [www.f-35atrainingeis.com](http://www.f-35atrainingeis.com).

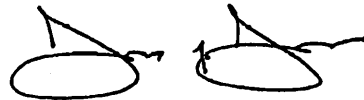
Public and agency comments received by the Air Force throughout the environmental process were considered in the preparation of the Draft EIS. As part of the EIS development, the Air Force or its contractor may have contacted you in their data collection efforts.

To ensure the Air Force has sufficient time to consider public input in preparation of the Final EIS, we are requesting that comments be submitted by March 14, 2012 through public hearings, in writing to the address below, by fax to 210-652-5649, or by e-mail to [aetc.a7cp.inbox@us.af.mil](mailto:aetc.a7cp.inbox@us.af.mil).

HQ AETC/A7CPP  
Attn: David Martin Air Force Contractor and Kim Fornof  
266 F Street West, Building 901  
Randolph AFB 78150-4319

For additional information, please contact HQ AETC/A7CPP at (210) 652-1961.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David F. DeMartino', with a stylized flourish at the end.

DAVID F. DeMARTINO, Colonel, USAF, P.E.  
The Civil Engineer

Attachment:  
Draft EIS