



## Continental United States (CONUS) Interceptor Site (CIS) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

The 2013 National Defense Authorization Act requires the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) to prepare an EIS in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 for locations that would be best suited for future deployment of an interceptor capable of protecting the homeland against threats from nations such as North Korea and Iran. The Department of Defense has not made a decision to deploy or construct the CIS.

### Overview

- NEPA requires Federal agencies to ensure decision-makers make informed decisions based on an understanding of the environmental impacts of their proposed actions.
- Under NEPA, Federal agencies are required to coordinate with other agencies having environmental expertise or regulatory oversight and give the public the opportunity to have input and comment on proposed actions, alternatives and environmental analysis.

### Details

MDA is preparing this EIS to evaluate the potential environmental impacts that could result from the possible future deployment of a CIS. The CIS EIS is being prepared in two stages resulting in a draft and final EIS. The CIS EIS includes a statement of the purpose and need for a CIS, a description of all reasonable alternatives (i.e., locations selected from MDA's comprehensive siting study) to meet the purpose and need, a description of the environment to be affected by those alternatives, and an analysis of the direct and indirect effects of the alternatives.

### EIS Process

**Notice of Intent (NOI).** The NOI was published in the Federal Register on July 16, 2014, to let the public know of MDA's intent to prepare the CIS EIS. The NOI provided a brief description of the proposed action and alternatives, information on the scoping process, locations of public meetings and MDA's point of contact. During the scoping process, MDA asked for assistance in identifying significant issues to analyze in the CIS EIS. Several public scoping meetings were held during the scoping period.

**Draft Environmental Impact Statement.** The Draft EIS has been prepared in accordance with NEPA, and includes issues raised during public scoping process. It contains a reasonable range of alternatives, a full description of the affected environment, and an analysis of the impacts of each alternative. A Notice of Availability (NOA) was published in the Federal Register. Comments on the EIS may be submitted to MDA during the 45-day public review period after the publication date. Public meetings are being held for the public to gain additional information. The Draft EIS can be viewed at [www.mda.mil](http://www.mda.mil).

**Final Environmental Impact Statement.** Based on comments on the Draft EIS, MDA will prepare a Final EIS. The Final EIS will be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) which will publish a NOA in the Federal Register.

**Record of Decision (ROD).** A concise statement that states the final decision and discusses the MDA's choice among the alternatives considered. The MDA does not anticipate issuing a ROD unless and until a decision to construct and deploy a CIS is made by the Department of Defense.