

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ADDRESSING HEAT AND ELECTRICAL UPGRADES AT FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

PROJECT FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW

The Department of the Army announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as part of the environmental planning process to address heat and electrical upgrades at Fort Wainwright, Alaska. The Draft EIS evaluates reasonable alternatives, potential environmental impacts, and key issues of concern.

Heat and power need to support more than 400 facilities across the 9-million-square-foot Garrison. The U.S. Army Garrison Alaska generates most of its own electricity by burning coal at a central heat and power plant (CHPP), which has been in use since 1945. The Draft EIS is being prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) to evaluate potential environmental impacts that could result from the four alternatives.



ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED

To provide reliable heat and power for Fort Wainwright, the following four possible alternatives are evaluated in the Draft EIS:



Build New CHPP

This action would involve construction of a new, modern, coalfired CHPP and steam distribution system.

Build New Dual-Fuel Combustion Turbine Generator CHPP

This action would involve replacement of the existing CHPP with a new, modern, dual-fuel combustion turbine generator CHPP.

Install Distributed Natural Gas Boilers

The Garrison would transition away from reliance upon a centralized heat and power model. Instead, the Garrison would install multiple high-efficiency, natural gas-fired boilers that would be dispersed at facilities across the installation to provide heat, and would purchase all required electricity from a local utility provider.



No Action

The Garrison would continue to use the existing heat and electrical infrastructure, and would not construct any new facilities.



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DRAFT EIS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

U.S. Army Garrison Alaska invites the public to provide input on the Draft EIS. A digital copy of the Draft EIS is available at <u>https://home.army.mil/alaska/index.php/fort-wainwright/NEPA/HEU-EIS</u>. Copies of the Draft EIS will be available for review at the Noel Wien Library, 1215 Cowles Street, Fairbanks, AK 99701; Post Library, Building 3700, Santiago Avenue, Fort Wainwright, AK 99703; and Tri-Valley Community Library, 400 Suntrana Road, Healy, AK 99743 if these facilities are open; and upon request.

The public comment period is October 9, 2020, through December 8, 2020.

YOUR INPUT

Your input is important. There are several ways to provide comments.



Email: usarmy.wainwright.id-pacific.mbx.heu-eis@mail.mil



Online Open House:

https://home.army.mil/alaska/index.php/fort-wainwright/NEPA/HEU-EIS



, Telephone Public Meeting:

Monday, November 9, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Dial toll-free 855-756-7520 and use access code 65742.



Mail:

Ms. Laura Sample, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Program Manager Attn: IMFW-PWE (Sample) 1046 Marks Road #4500 Fort Wainwright, AK 99703-4500

QUESTIONS?

If you need additional information or have questions on the NEPA process, please contact Laura Sample via email at <u>usarmy.wainwright.id-pacific.mbx.heu-eis@mail.mil</u> or visit the project website at <u>https://home.army.mil/alaska/index.php/fort-wainwright/NEPA/HEU-EIS</u>.