

**PRESENTATION BEFORE THE
LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE
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Overview

**National Security Environment
New Mexico's Military Installations
Current Office and Commission Actions/Issues
Base Realignment and Closure (Proposed Criteria at attachment two)
FY 2021 Budget Request**

National Security Environment

- Shift in National Security Strategy from asymmetric warfare to peer competitor readiness
- Maintain capabilities for contingencies across the globe
- Stand up of Space Force

New Mexico's Military Installations

Cannon AFB (Air Force Special Operations Command): 27th Special Operations Wing (SOW)/Cannon currently has approximately 6,000 personnel; 11 squadrons—8 flying units. Since the SOW was established at Cannon just over a decade ago, they have completed \$1.5 Billion in military construction programs to include over a thousand new and renovated homes, new dormitories, child development center, fitness facility, medical clinic, dining facilities, aircraft hangar and maintenance facility. Melrose Air Force Range is critical to Cannon hosting the SOW. Over the past twelve years they have transitioned the range from an air-to-ground single access impact range to an integration range capable of conducting complex joint and combined full mission rehearsals. Cannon's ability to improve their range and maintain the existing complex is underfunded. Cannon's estimated annual economic impact is \$553 million per year, more than double the impact from 2008.

Cannon issues: workforce imbalances, inadequate housing, inadequate specialty medical care, and deficient education options.

Holloman AFB (Air Education and Training Command—with several key tenants): 49th Wing currently has approximately 6,000 personnel; three MQ-9 aircrew training squadrons and 24 assigned aircraft; three F-16 aircrew training squadrons and 85 assigned aircraft. The Southwest Special Use Airspace Optimization project is expected to reach a record of decision in the next 3-6 months. This initiative, if approved, will improve the 49th Wing's training efficiency and effectiveness. Holloman's Economic Impact is approximately \$505 million per year.

Holloman Issues: Housing, retention, quality of education, and middle school facility.

Kirtland AFB (Air Force Materiel Command): 58th SOW (Air Education and Training Command) is continuing to address local infrastructure training needs with state and US Forest Service support. Kirtland in conjunction with the Sandia National Lab is developing and building out a revolutionary electric micro grid to improve the installation's resilience. Could serve as a model for Air Force and all DoD installations. Looking for grant opportunities to further the build out and explore options to include public infrastructure. Kirtland AFB is (in my personal view) a solid contender for the final basing decision of US Space Command. There is also future opportunity to compete for one or more Space Force field commands. DOD Economic Impact of Kirtland is approximately \$6.0 Billion annually.

Kirtland issues: 108 mission partners from many Major Commands – challenges in understanding overall installation growth and funding for mission support functions; 58th SOW training mission stability and encroachment on training areas for rotary wing aircraft, education, crime, specialty health care, aged infrastructure.

White Sands Missile Range (Army Test and Evaluation Command): Commanding General is continuing to support of New Mexico's other installations for critical flying training. Increased high priority testing and development of new capabilities provides a strain on range scheduling and joint use. The Economic Impact of WSMR is approximately \$2.9 Billion per year.

WSMR issues: Dealing with “customer” budget uncertainty—they are a 50% reimbursable organization, depending on “customers” for financial stability, continuing to monitor the impact of SunZia on their mission, aggressively entering into land lease agreements that will protect the testing call up areas from future development.

Office Actions and Issues

Renewable Energy Impacts/SunZia: The Secretary of the Department of the Interior signed the “Record of Decision” for the transmission line routing several years ago but met with DoD resistance due to the impact of the WSMR mission. BLM is undergoing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement to study alternatives to routing the SunZia transmission line through the Northern Extension Area of WSMR. One of the alternatives has already shown a negative impact on the 58th SOW training areas. Discussions to mitigate these concerns are ongoing.

Education: Recently nominated to the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission State Council. Designed to resolve issues affecting military families as they manage recurring changes of duty stations. Exploring opportunities to enhance STEM programs at districts supporting the military student.

DoD Strategic Basing Criteria: Military family quality of life issues are now included in basing decisions. Air Force is first with published criteria to include education and spouse reciprocity of licensure.

NM Energy Opportunities Web-Based Tool: Developed from a \$750k DoD Office of Economic Adjustment Grant, this tool runs on an ESRI web application and includes a majority of geographic information systems databases for land use, lines of communication, energy development areas, and special use military airspace. This office will contract with UNM's Earth Data Analysis Center (EDAC) to host, maintain, and update the tool for optimal effectiveness.

Intergovernmental Support Agreements: Provide opportunities to enhance the mission capability, readiness, resilience, and military value of an installation affecting strategic basing decisions. These agreements can reduce operations and maintenance costs in the provision of base services while at the same time providing economic benefit to local community service providers. Cannon and Holloman have both expressed interest to date. There is also the potential for entering into such an agreement with the State.

Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC): The DoD published an Infrastructure Capacity report in October of 2017 that lists the Air Force as having 32% excess infrastructure and recommended Congress undertake a BRAC round in FY2021. Congress is concerned over lack of savings from prior closures and realignments. Status of Congressional support for a BRAC round might change given changes in leadership stemming from the Nov election.

Office of Military Base Planning and Support FY 2022 Budget Request (\$000)

Due to state-wide budgetary constraints, there was a 5% budget reduction from FY 21. As a result, \$10,000 was deducted from the 400 category (Other Costs). This reduction is accommodated by current travel restrictions due to COVID and the lack of an appointed commission. The commission was appointed on September 16, 2020.

- **Personnel services: \$137.3**

- **Other Costs: \$25.2**, Supports Commission meetings, travel, communications, memberships, office supplies, and transportation.

- **Contractual Services: \$89.5**

-- **Audit: \$4.5**

-- **Intergovernmental Support Agreement: \$50.0**; Develop agreements between the installations and local community for specific base support services.

-- **Renewable Energy Opportunities Web-based Tool: \$20.0**: Earth Data Analysis Center (EDAC) hosting and recurring updates of geographic information system to facilitate renewable energy developer's coordination with military installation. In addition, assist the State of New Mexico in working with the Army and the Air Force to minimize the impact of renewable energy initiatives on operational as well as research and development/test and evaluation missions in New Mexico.

-- **Outreach Initiatives: \$15.0**; Develop a departmental website, evaluate a marketing strategy, and establish social media presence.

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BRAC CRITERIA (Proposed by DOD)

--**Military Value:** Primary consideration given to “Military Value” regarding recommendations for closure or realignment.

--The **current and future mission capabilities** and the impact on operational readiness of the total force of the Department of Defense, including the **impact on joint warfighting, training, and readiness**

--The **availability and condition of land, facilities, and associated airspace** (including training areas suitable for maneuver by ground, naval, or air forces throughout a diversity of climate and terrain areas and staging areas for the use of the Armed Forces in homeland defense missions) at both existing and potential receiving locations

--The **ability to accommodate contingency, mobilization, surge, and future total force requirements** at both existing and potential receiving locations to support operations and training

--The **cost of operations** and the manpower implications

--Other Criteria:

--The **extent and timing of potential costs and savings**, including the **number of years**, beginning with the date of completion of the closure or realignment, for **the savings to exceed the costs**

--The **economic impact** on existing communities in the vicinity military installation

--The **ability of the infrastructure** of both the existing and potential receiving communities to support forces, missions, and personnel

--The **environmental impact**, including the impact of costs related to potential environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities