



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
27TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING (AFSOC)
CANNON AIR FORCE BASE NEW MEXICO**

7 September 2011

Colonel Albert Elton II
Commander
100 S DL Ingram Blvd Suite 100
Cannon AFB NM 88103-5214

Enclosed please find the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) which evaluates the potential environmental consequences of establishing low-level training for Cannon Air Force Base (AFB) within northern New Mexico and southern Colorado. The Air Force clearly heard the interests of the communities during the Environmental Assessment scoping process and adjusted its proposal to ensure the needs of both the Air Force and communities were addressed.

The Draft EA considers the potential environmental consequences of a proposal to designate a low-altitude training area in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado where 27th Special Operations Wing (27 SOW) aircrews operating from Cannon AFB would train for worldwide operations under their global response commitment. As part of the environmental assessment scoping process, we received comments during a series of informational meetings conducted in 2010. The resulting Draft Environmental Assessment was developed with those comments in mind. A summary of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternatives are outlined in Chapter 2 of the Draft EA.

Community forums on the Draft EA will be held in various locations throughout the affected states in accordance with the schedule contained in Enclosure 3 to this letter. Additionally, notification of the availability of the Draft EA will appear in newspapers throughout the area.

The 60-day public comment period for the Draft EA begins 7 September 2011 and ends 5 November 2011. A final EA is expected to be published in middle of December, with either a Finding of No Significant Impact or a decision to prepare an environmental impact statement.

All comments on the Draft EA should be in writing and directed to 27th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs, 110 E Sextant, #1150, Cannon AFB NM 88103; FAX: 575-784-7412; or by phone: 575-784-4131.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Elton II", is positioned above the typed name.

ALBERT M. ELTON II, Colonel, USAF

3 Attachments:

1. Draft EA
2. Repository List
3. Community Forum Locations

**Cannon Low Altitude Training Area Draft EA
Repository List**

Alamosa/Southern
Peaks Public Library
423 4th Street
Alamosa, CO 81101

Farmington
Public Library
2101 Farmington Ave
Farmington, NM 87401

Robert Hoag Rawlings
Public Library
100 E Abriendo Ave
Pueblo, CO 81004

Albuquerque
Main Library
501 Copper Ave NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

John F Reed Library
Fort Lewis College
1000 Rim Drive
Durango, CO 81301

Santa Fe Community
College Library
6401 Richards Ave
Santa Fe, NM 87508

Ann Zugelder Library
307 North
Wisconsin Street
Gunnison, CO 81230

Moise Memorial Library
208 Fifth St
Santa Rosa, NM 88435

Santa Fe Public Library
145 Washington Street
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Arthur Johnson
Memorial Library
244 Cook Avenue
Raton NM, 87740

Montrose Main Library
320 South 2nd Street
Montrose, CO
81401

Taos Public Library
402 Camino De
La Placita
Taos, NM 87571

Carnegie
Public Library
500 National Ave
Las Vegas, NM 87701

Nielsen Library
Adams State College
208 Edgemont Blvd
Alamosa CO 81102

Tucumcari
Public Library
602 S Second Street
Tucumcari, NM 88401

Clayton
Public Library
17 Chestnut Street
Clayton, NM 88415

Northern NM
College Library
921 Paseo De Oñate
Española, NM 87532

Zimmerman Library
1 University of
New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

Clovis-Carver
Public Library
701 N Main Street
Clovis, NM 88101

Penrose Library
20 N Cascade Ave
Colorado Springs,
CO 80903

Durango
Public Library
1900 East Third Ave
Durango, CO 81301

Pitkin County Library
120 North Mill Street
Aspen, CO 81611

Espanola
Public Library
313 N Paseo De Oñate
Española, NM 87532

Portales Public Library
218 S Avenue B
Portales, NM 88130

**Cannon Low Altitude Training Area Draft EA
Community Forum Dates and Locations
September – October 2011
All meeting times 6-9 p.m.**

Albuquerque, NM

Monday, Sept. 19
CNM Workforce Training Center
5600 Eagle Rock Ave NE

Taos, NM

Tuesday, Sept. 20
Kachina Lodge
413 Paseo Del Pueblo Norte

Espanola, NM

Wednesday, Sept. 21
Santa Claran Hotel
460 N Riverside Dr
Mountain View Room

Santa Fe, NM

Thursday, Sept. 22
Santa Fe Community College
6401 Richards Ave, Jemez Rooms

Alamosa, CO

Monday, Oct. 3
Alamosa Family Recreational Center
2222 Old Sanford Rd

Raton, NM

Tuesday, Oct. 4
Raton Convention Center
901 S 3rd St

Pueblo, CO

Wednesday, Oct. 5
Central High School
216 E Orman Ave, Media Room

Colorado Springs, CO

Thursday, Oct. 6
Colorado Springs Senior Center
1514 N Hancock Ave

Aspen, CO

Monday, Oct. 10
Aspen High School
Seminar Room
235 High School Road

Durango, CO

Tuesday, Oct. 11
Doubletree Hotel
501 Camino Del Rio

Montrose, CO

Wednesday, Oct. 12
Montrose Pavilion
1800 Pavilion Drive

Gunnison, CO

Thursday, Oct. 13
Western State College
College Center Ballroom
600 N Adams St

Farmington, NM

Friday, Oct. 14
San Juan Community College
Henderson Fine Arts Bldg
4601 College Blvd

Santa Rosa, NM

Monday, Oct. 17
Comfort Inn
2524 Historic Route 66

Las Vegas, NM

Tuesday, Oct. 18
Highlands University, Kennedy Lounge
905 University Ave

Clayton, NM

Wednesday, Oct. 19
Golden Spread Community Center
110 Walnut St

Tucumcari, NM

Thursday, Oct. 20
Tucumcari Convention Center
Ft Bascom Room,
1500 West Historic Route 66