

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)
FOR THE PROPOSED BASE IMPROVEMENTS
AT STEWART INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
NEW YORK AIR NATIONAL GUARD
 105th Airlift Wing
 NEWBURGH, NEW YORK

This FONSI is a draft based upon input generated to date and prior to the public review. The Draft FONSI and Environmental Assessment may be changed based upon public review of the documents. Consistent with the requirements of 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 989.15(e), this Draft FONSI is being made public.

The National Guard Bureau (NGB) has prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate potential consequences to the human and natural environment associated with improvements at the 105th Airlift Wing (105 AW) base at the Stewart International Airport. NGB prepared this EA pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 United States Code 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), and United States Air Force (USAF) Environmental Impact Analysis Process (32 CFR 989 *et seq.*).

PURPOSE/NEED

The purpose of this federal action is to support the renovation of the 105 AW installation, which is in need of upgrading to potentially accommodate an as yet to be identified future mission beddown and to consolidate facilities and improve space optimization through renovation and new construction projects.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

	Project Title /#/ Year	Alternative 1	Preferred Alternative
1	Renovate Medical Group Building 203 / WHAY1402001 / 2022	No other alternative identified.	Fully renovate building for maximum efficiency. Renovate heating/cooling, interior finishes, electrical, plumbing, windows, doors, exterior finishes, and sewer connection.
2	Energy: Repair Building 200 / WHAY142004 / 2021	No other alternative identified.	Replace overhead doors, including replacement of seals, gaskets, trim, and other ancillary features.

	Project Title /#/ Year	Alternative 1	Preferred Alternative
3	Construct AGE Covered Storage / WHAY142100 / 2022	No other alternative identified.	Remove existing asphalt and replace with concrete in the existing outdoor storage area. Project includes canopy structure and associated features.
4	Repair Electrical System / WHAY142101 / 2023	No other alternative identified.	Replace feeder lines, repair electrical substation, and perform associated site work.
5	Repair Natural Gas System / WHAY142102 / 2023	No other alternative identified.	Repair and replace the natural gas distribution system, replace feeder lines, and perform associated site work.
6	Renovate Hangar 100 / WHAY162004 / 2023	No other alternative identified.	Fully renovate supporting spaces, including electrical, plumbing, interior finishes, Heating, Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC), doors, windows, ventilation, and other features as needed.
7	Replace Roof Building 213/214 / WHAY162010 / 2022	No other alternative identified.	Fully finish roof and associated drainage.
8	Upgrade IW Lagoons / WHAY172005 / 2022	Line or remove/ reinstall all of the IW drains on the base. Same end result with excessive cost.	Upgrade IW lagoons through installation of an IW water filtration system to ensure compliance with environmental standards and regulations.
9	Repair / Remediate Fire Water Loop / WHAY172006 / 2022	Abandon current in place and replace with new system. More land disturbance required; same end result but with excessive cost makes the alternative less desirable.	Remove and replace existing fire loop pipe/system.

	Project Title /#/ Year	Alternative 1	Preferred Alternative
10	New Mission Beddown / No Project # / 2026	Reconfigure Building 107. Demolish a portion of Building 107 (44,000 SF) so that 12,000 SF of the original building remains. Construct new addition so that the facility will be 35,000 SF facility (overall decrease of 21,000 SF). Additional area of approximately 20,000 SF converted from turf grass to asphalt.	Renovate Building 107. 13,000 SF of existing interior spaces for a potential new mission, including heating/cooling, interior finishes, electrical, plumbing, windows, and doors. Additional area of approximately 10,000 SF converted from turf grass to asphalt.
11	Repair Fire Suppression Building 101 / WHAY192322 / 2022	No other alternative identified.	All interior fire suppression system and associated equipment will be replaced, including backflow preventer, registers, and piping.
12	Repair Fire Suppression B102 / WHAY192323 / 2022	No other alternative identified.	All interior fire suppression system and associated equipment will be replaced, including backflow preventer, registers, and piping.
13	Convert Hangar 101 to Fuel Cell / No Project # / 2026	Military construction (MILCON) project to expand Hangar 102. Alternative rejected; more expensive with same end result.	Redesign High Expansion Foam (HEF) system to include installation of fall protection, fuel tank system, ventilation, grounding points, and administrative support space, and other features, as required.

	Project Title /#/ Year	Alternative 1	Preferred Alternative
14	Building 213 Renovation / No Project # / 2026	No other alternative identified.	Fully renovate building and free standing covered storage for maximum efficiency. Renovate heating/cooling, interior finishes, electrical, plumbing, windows, and doors.
15a	New Munitions Maintenance Complex/ WHAY109000 / 2021	Use existing building, which is outdated, inefficient, and unsafe.	Includes construction of new building, interior finishes, utility connections, lightning protection, grounding, additional access pavement, and security fences.
15b	Demolish Existing Munitions Maintenance Building / WHAY109000 / 2021	No other alternatives identified.	Demolish 600 SF building and foundations. Remove constructed features and restore area as seeded lawn.
16	Main Gate Overhang / No Project # / 2021	No other alternative identified.	Construct covered area with canopy or other overhang, and associated features.
17	Building 102 Exterior Improvements / No Project # / 2023	No other alternative identified.	Fully finish exterior, including roof, drainage, windows, doors, siding, and adjacent landscaping as needed.
18	Demolish Hazardous Storage Shed 1107 / No Project # / 2025	No other alternative identified.	Demolish building and foundations. Remove constructed features and restore area as seeded lawn (269 SF).

The No Action Alternative is required by 40 CFR 1502.14(d). Under the No Action Alternative, the construction, renovation, and demolition projects will not occur. This will not meet the 105 AW's needs; however, it is carried forward for analysis per CEQ regulations and as a baseline for comparing the other alternatives.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND CONSEQUENCES

Per CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1500), federal agencies may focus their NEPA analysis on those resource areas that could be affected and omit discussions of resource areas that would not be affected by a Proposed Action (40 CFR 1501.7[a][3]). It was determined that the following resources did not warrant further consideration because there would be no impacts: 1) land use, 2) biological resources, 3) transportation and traffic circulation, 4) visual resources, and 5) cultural resources. The following resources were further analyzed for potential impacts.

Safety. Several beneficial impacts are anticipated to occur under the Proposed Action, including installation of an oil-water separator (OWS) at the fire station, installation of an industrial waste (IW) waste water filtration system, repair and remediation of the fire water loop system, repair of the fire suppression systems in Buildings 101 and 102, demolition of the hazardous storage shed, and demolition and replacement of the munitions maintenance complex. The projects will bring these areas or systems into compliance with anti-terrorism/force protection (AT/FP) and safety requirements.

Air Quality. Under the Proposed Action, no significant impacts to air quality would occur. Dust and combustion emissions from construction-related activities would create short-term air emissions; however, implementation of standard dust minimization practices would serve to reduce the amount of dust generated during construction.

Noise. Under the Proposed Action, no significant impact to noise receptors, including rural residences, would occur. Construction-related noise would have minor, temporary effects on the noise environment in the vicinity of the Proposed Action area. Given the type of construction activities (sporadic, during daytime hours, short-term, etc.), no significant impacts to residences would occur. There are no long-term significant impacts to noise receptors under the Proposed Action. Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no significant impacts to noise receptors.

Geological Resources. Under the Proposed Action, construction activities would include soil disturbance either through demolition or ground clearing for preparation of construction. Best management practices (BMPs) such as erosion controls and prompt stabilization of open earthwork would be implemented to minimize erosion. In addition, soil disturbance activities would be short-term and temporary. There are no long-term significant impacts to geological resources under the Proposed Action. Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no significant impacts to geological resources.

Water Resources. Under the Proposed Action, construction activities would include creating more than 5,000 square feet of new impervious surface. Stormwater management strategies will be conducted, to the maximum extent technically feasible, to reduce impacts to temperature, rate, volume, and duration of stormwater flow from the new impervious surface. In accordance with Section 438 of the Energy Independence Security Act (EISA), the Proposed Action would be implemented in such

a way as to maintain or restore the predevelopment hydrology of the property. Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no significant impacts to water resources.

Socioeconomics. Under the Proposed Action, there would be a short-term beneficial impact to socioeconomics during construction. The potential addition of a new mission and the implementation of construction projects will bring an opportunity for local jobs, including both skilled and unskilled (general labor) construction and related work.

Hazardous Materials and Wastes, Solid Waste, and Other Contaminants. Under the Proposed Action, several projects would have beneficial effects with regard to hazardous substances, including installation of an IW waste water filtration system, repair and remediation of the fire water loop system, repair of the fire suppression systems in Buildings 101 and 102, and demolition of the hazardous storage shed.

Because perfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS) are mobile and the extent of the compound has not been fully delineated at the 105 AW, there is a possibility of encountering soil and groundwater contamination at the project sites. It is assumed that all work will include proper waste characterization, material/waste handling, and waste disposal, for asbestos-containing materials, PFAS-contaminated soil, and PFAS-contaminated groundwater and surface water encountered during construction. Additionally, the 105 AW will follow the “Final Community Involvement Plan”, updated April, 2021, which is intended to encourage and promote two-way communication between the ANG and concerned individuals, including residents and state and local officials as well as inform the public of planned and ongoing cleanup actions, major findings, and decisions. Therefore, the Proposed Action would have beneficial impacts to hazardous substances.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEPA, 40 CFR §§1500-1508, and 32 CFR 989 require public review of the EA before approval of the FONSI and implementation of the Proposed Action. A Notice of Availability for public review of the Draft EA was published in the Times Herald-Record on September 7, 2021. Comments received from agencies and the public have been addressed and incorporated, as appropriate, into the Final EA. Public comments are in Appendix A of the Final EA.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

After careful review of the potential impacts of this Proposed Action as assessed in the *Environmental Assessment, New York Air National Guard, 105th Airlift Wing, Stewart International Airport, Newburgh, New York*, I have concluded that the action's implementation would not have a significant impact on the quality of the human or natural environment or generate significant controversy by itself or considering cumulative impacts. Accordingly, the requirements of NEPA, the CEQ regulations, and 32 CFR 989, *et. seq.* have been fulfilled, and an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.

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Date