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## The EIS Process: What Are the Next Steps?

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For more detailed information on the topics presented here, please refer to the 2014 Draft SEIS, which is available for review at the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, located in

the University of Guam, and the Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library in Hagåtña. The 2014 Draft SEIS can also be viewed online and downloaded at the websites listed below.



SHAPING THE FUTURE ... TOGETHER

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (SEIS) FOR A  
**LIVE-FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX (LFTRC) AND MAIN CANTONMENT  
AND FAMILY HOUSING LOCATION ON GUAM**

## What is NEPA and It's Role in the EIS Process?

The US Congress passed the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in 1969 to ensure that federal agencies consider environmental issues in planning and decision-making. The President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) established guidelines for federal agency implementation of the act.

The NEPA requires federal agencies to integrate environmental values into their decision making processes by considering the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions. The process also provides the opportunity for public input to be received and considered before any action is taken. Federal agencies are required to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for actions that may significantly affect the human or natural environment. The proposed military buildup on Guam is considered a federal action and thus requires preparation of an EIS.

## What is an EIS?

An EIS is a detailed study of the potential consequences a federal action might have on people or the environment. An EIS informs decision-makers and the public of reasonable alternatives that would avoid or reduce impacts, or enhance the quality of the environment. All alternatives are to be considered before a decision is made about whether or how to implement the proposed action.

## Why Is an SEIS Necessary?

The **2012 Roadmap Adjustments** establish revisions to the military mission in the Western Pacific Region. Since the **2012 Roadmap Adjustments** were issued after the release of the 2010 Final EIS and 2010 Record of Decision (ROD), a Supplemental EIS (SEIS) was necessary. The 2014 Draft SEIS was prepared to address the revised requirements for the LFTRC and Cantonment, as well as comments from the public received in response to the 2010 Final EIS and ROD.



Download the complete Draft SEIS and related documents at these websites:  
JGPO: [www.guambuildupeis.us](http://www.guambuildupeis.us)  
GovGuam: [www.one.guam.gov](http://www.one.guam.gov)



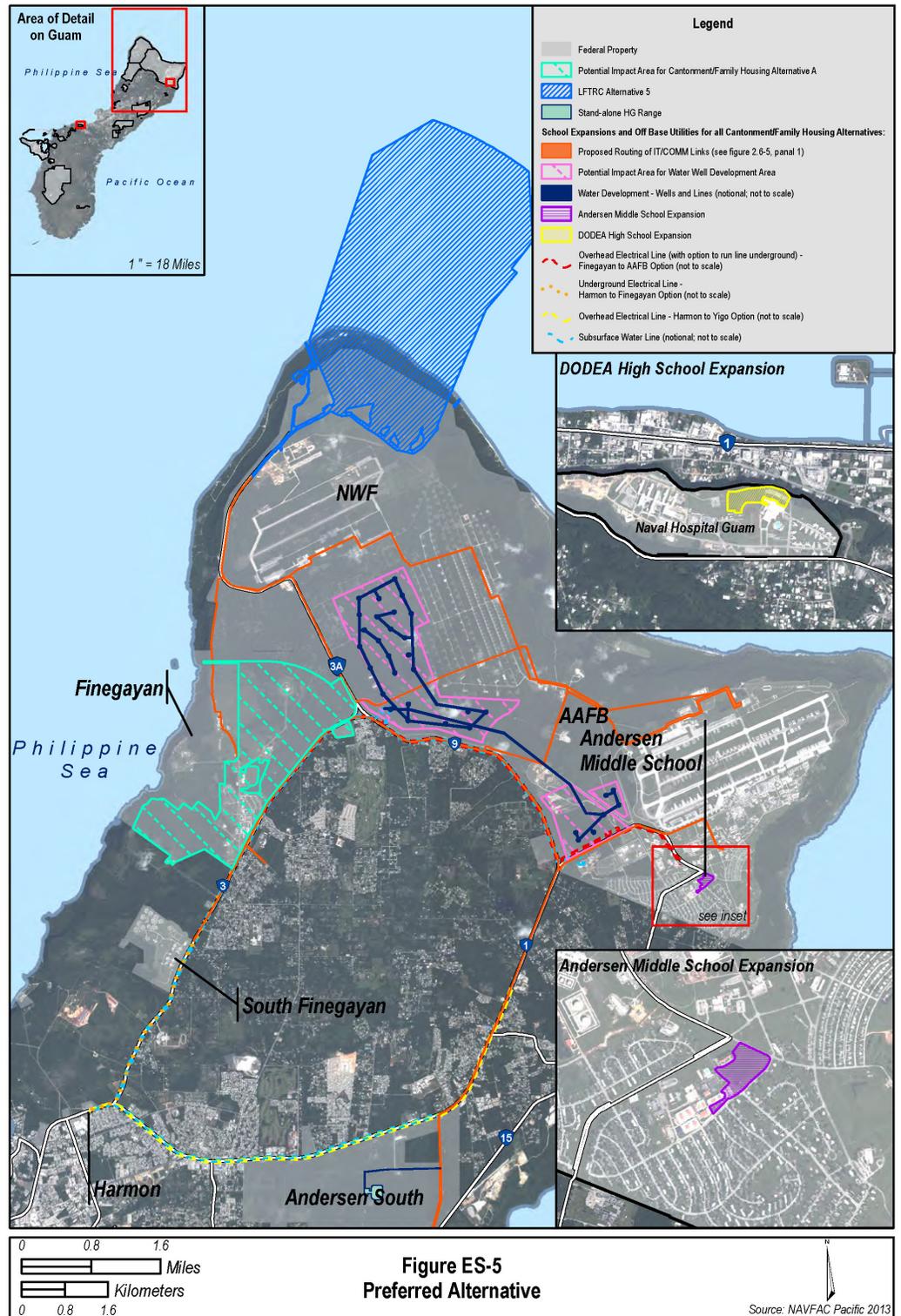
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## What Role Does the 2014 Draft SEIS Have?

The 2014 Draft SEIS has provided detailed descriptions of the proposed action and its purpose, alternatives and their affected environments, and an analysis of the beneficial and adverse effects of the alternatives preferred by the DON. It has also analyzed all impacts associated with the relocation of the Marines and their dependents from Okinawa, along with the establishment of the US Army ballistic missile defense task force. The main components of the document address training, main cantonment, family housing and associated utilities, infrastructure improvements, public access, aviation, and waterfront activity concerns. Many of the issues have been discussed publicly to allow for concerns to be addressed so that new options can be determined to minimize the negative impacts.

In the 2014 Draft SEIS, the DON identifies its Preferred Alternatives after considering the Marines Corps operational requirements, environmental factors, infrastructure capabilities, and public input.



## What is the Final SEIS?

Once the comment period ends on June 17th, 2014, NEPA requires the review and analysis of all comments and alternatives before developing the Final SEIS. This step is aimed at providing the best information to move forward in the decision making process, thereby improving the final decision.

## What Role Does the DON Have?

The Department of the Navy (DON) will be responding to comments submitted for the Draft SEIS, as well as the comments provided during the public meetings. Responses to comments will be incorporated and documented in the Final SEIS.

The preferred alternatives are subject to change when further analysis and comments are introduced, but the identification of the preferred alternatives is important for the decision making process. Although the 2014 Draft SEIS identifies only two preferred alternatives, the NEPA requires the DON to continue analysis of all alternatives. The DON is currently in the process of reviewing comments submitted and is revising the Draft SEIS to prepare the Final SEIS. Copies of all the comments by agencies and residents are to be included for the Final SEIS, so that if changes are made they can be referenced. Once the Final SEIS has been approved, the DON may conduct meetings within weeks after the Final SEIS is released to provide more detailed information on the implementation process. The Final SEIS is expected to be released in early 2015.



*“The DON is committed to an open and transparent process in the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps forces to Guam. Our current plans are consistent with our Four Pillars strategy established in January 2011. We encourage the people of Guam to review the Draft SEIS document and provide feedback and comments. This will help us in the process as we work toward a Final SEIS”*





## What Is the Record of Decision (ROD)?

The ROD is the last step and end to the NEPA process. No final decision is made 30 days before or 90 days after the Final SEIS is filed. The ROD document will:

- State the decision (i.e., identifies the selected alternatives).
- Present the basis for the decision.
- Identify all other alternatives considered and summarizes why they were not selected.
- Identify the environmentally preferable alternative and, if applicable, why it was not chosen.
- List and identifies all environmental commitments made in the SEIS.
- Adopt and summarize a monitoring and enforcement program, if applicable, for any mitigation.

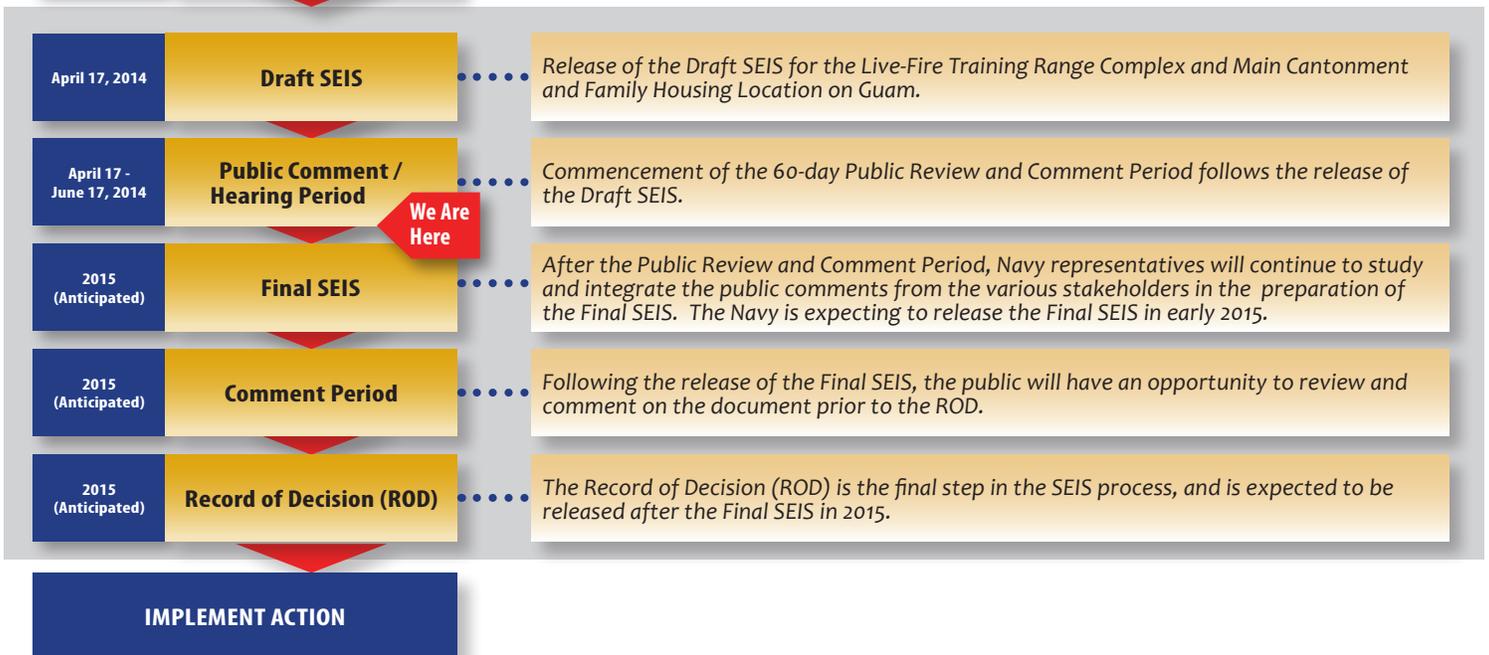
No more public meetings on the Final SEIS will occur once the ROD has been filed.

## What to Expect Next:

Topics and announcements can be found on the JGPO website:

[www.guambuildupeis.us](http://www.guambuildupeis.us)

For updates and further information please visit: [www.one.guam.gov](http://www.one.guam.gov)



Get more information on the Draft SEIS at these websites:

JGPO: [www.guambuildupeis.us](http://www.guambuildupeis.us)

GovGuam: [www.one.guam.gov](http://www.one.guam.gov)



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Definitions for terms and acronyms used in this and other related reports can be found in the *Acronym Guide and Glossary* at [www.one.guam.gov](http://www.one.guam.gov).