

**FINAL**

**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

National Environmental Policy Act; Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed New Town Project at NASA Langley Research Center

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Langley Research Center (LaRC)

ACTION: Finding of No Significant Impact

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 - 1508), and NASA's policy NPR 8580.1, "Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114," NASA has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to the proposed New Town Project. The redevelopment initiative consists of the construction of five new buildings, the renovation of two existing buildings, and the deconstruction of 22 buildings. The New Town project would be completed in five phases, beginning as early as 2008 and expected to be completed over fifteen years. This effort is intended to modernize the center core of LaRC, better align LaRC's facilities with its future mission requirements, and significantly reduce the Center's infrastructure and operations & maintenance costs. The project would reduce the LaRC facility inventory by approximately 6,351 square meters (68,366 square feet) and create additional green space at the Center.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Tom Quenville, NASA LaRC, Center Operations Directorate, MS 241, Hampton, VA 23681-2199, (757) 864-7286.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: NASA has reviewed the EA prepared for the proposed New Town project and has determined that it represents an accurate and adequate analysis of the scope and level of associated environmental impacts. The EA is incorporated by reference in this FONSI.

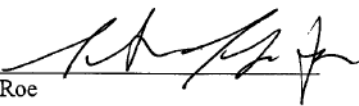
The Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative were considered in the EA. Under the No-Action Alternative, NASA would not undertake the New Town project. The No-Action alternative would not facilitate LaRC's goal of improving current and future mission performance capability. The No-Action alternative would forego the opportunity to streamline the Center's infrastructure and to refocus limited resources on the infrastructure that would meet LaRC's mission requirements.

The EA addressed environmental impacts in the areas of Land Use; Noise; Cultural Resources; Hazardous, Regulated and Solid Waste; Pollution Prevention; Health and Safety; Visual Resources; Air Quality; Water Resources; and Ecological Resources. With the exception of Cultural Resources, the impact of the Proposed Action on the identified resource areas would be minor and temporary. Implementation of the Proposed Action would have an adverse effect on LaRC's architectural resources since eight of the facilities proposed for deconstruction or renovation are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In

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accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, LaRC would minimize the impact to cultural resources by completing mitigation measures as prescribed in agreement documents developed in consultation with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer.

On the basis of the information provided in the EA, NASA has determined that the environmental impacts associated with this project will not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the quality of the human or natural environment. Therefore, issuance of a FONSI is warranted, and preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, is not required.

  
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Lesa B. Roe

Director, NASA Langley Research Center

10-16-08  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS**

This day, personally appeared before me, George Hunt, and made oath as follows:

1. He is employed in the Office Services Department of the Daily Press, Inc., a newspaper publishing company in the City of Newport News, Virginia.
2. The attached advertisement was published for 1 insertions in the *Daily Press*, commencing on:

10/19/2008 and ending on 10/19/2008.

George Hunt  
George Hunt

10/20/2008  
Date

Subscribed and sworn before me

This 20th day of Oct., 2008.

My commission expires: March 31, 2009

Rita Greene  
Rita Greene  
NOTARY PUBLIC

Registration Number: 356990

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National Environmental Policy Act; Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed New Town Project at NASA Langley Research Center	
AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Langley Research Center (LaRC)	
ACTION: Finding of No Significant Impact	
<b>SUMMARY:</b> Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and NASA's policy NPR 8560.1, implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114, NASA has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to the proposed New Town Project. The redevelopment initiative consists of the construction of five new buildings, the renovation of two existing buildings, and the deconstruction of 22 buildings. The New Town project would be completed in five phases, beginning as early as 2006 and expected to be completed over fifteen years. This effort is intended to modernize the center core of LaRC, better align LaRC's facilities with its future mission requirements, and significantly reduce the Center's infrastructure and operations & maintenance costs. The project would reduce the LaRC facility inventory by approximately 5,251 square meters (56,566 square feet) and create additional green space at the Center.	
<b>FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:</b> Mr. Tom Quenville, NASA LaRC, Center Operations Directorate, MS 241, Hampton, VA 23681-2199, (757) 664-7266.	
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:</b> NASA has reviewed the EA prepared for the proposed New Town project and has determined that it represents an accurate and adequate analysis of the scope and level of associated environmental impacts. The EA is incorporated by reference in this FONSI.	
The Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative were considered in the EA. Under the No-Action Alternative, NASA would not undertake the New Town project. The No-Action alternative would not facilitate LaRC's goal of improving current and future mission performance capability. The No-Action alternative would forego the opportunity to streamline the Center's infrastructure and to refocus limited resources on the infrastructure that would meet LaRC's mission requirements.	
The EA addressed environmental impacts in the areas of Land Use; Noise; Cultural Resources; Hazardous, Regulated and Solid Waste; Pollution Prevention; Health and Safety; Visual Resources; Air Quality; Water Resources; and Ecological Resources. With the exception of Cultural Resources, the impact of the Proposed Action on the identified resource areas would be minor and temporary. Implementation of the Proposed Action would have an adverse effect on LaRC's architectural resources since eight of the facilities proposed for deconstruction or renovation are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, LaRC would minimize the impact to cultural resources by completing mitigation measures as prescribed in agreement documents developed in consultation with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer.	
On the basis of the information provided in the EA, NASA has determined that the environmental impacts associated with this project will not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the quality of the human or natural environment. Therefore, issuance of a FONSI is warranted, and preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, is not required.	
Leah B. Roe Director, NASA Langley Research Center	Date: October 19, 2008