

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA)

NOTICE: KSC-02-14

National Environmental Policy Act: Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Multiuse of Launch Complex (LC) 39A and 39B, Environmental Assessment, KSC, Florida

AGENCY: NASA

ACTION: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 United States Code 4321, et seq.); the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA; 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500–1508; and NASA policy and procedures, 14 CFR Part 1216, Subpart 1216.3, NASA has made a FONSI with respect to the proposed Multiuse of LC-39A and -39B at KSC, Florida. The purpose of NASA's Proposed Action is to allow multiple users to prepare and launch vehicles from KSC LC-39A and -39B. The Proposed Action would provide the continued capability of space exploration, including the processing and launching of rocket powered vehicles to (1) enable improved access to KSC space launch and test operational capabilities by commercial and other non-NASA users; (2) advance NASA's mission by fostering a commercial space launch and services industry; and (3) improve the return on taxpayer investment of KSC spaceport facilities through expanded use and improved utilization.

DATE: This Proposed Action may proceed as of the date of signature of this FONSI.

ADDRESSES: Written comments or questions should be addressed to:

Mr. Donald Dankert
Environmental Management Branch
NASA Kennedy Space Center
Mail Code: TA-A4C
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899
E-mail: Donald.J.Dankert@nasa.gov

The Final Environmental Assessment (EA) is available for public review at the Central Brevard Library and Reference Center and the Cocoa Beach, Melbourne, Merritt Island, Port St. John, and Titusville Public Libraries. A limited number of the Final EA hard copies are available by contacting Mr. Donald Dankert at the address, electronic mail address, or telephone number indicated herein. The Final EA is also available online in Acrobat format at: <http://environmental.ksc.nasa.gov/projects/documents/FinalMultiuseEA.pdf>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Mr. Donald Dankert
Environmental Management Branch
NASA Kennedy Space Center
Mail Code: TA-A4C
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899
E-mail: Donald.J.Dankert@nasa.gov
Telephone: (321) 861-1196

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NASA initiated a 30-day public review and comment period for the Draft EA for the KSC Multiuse of LC-39A and -39B, KSC, Florida, by publishing a notice in the *Florida Today* newspaper on November 1, 2013, and by providing copies to the Florida State Clearinghouse. The public review period closed on December 2, 2013. Comments were considered in the Final EA preparation. NASA determined the Final EA represents an accurate and adequate analysis of the scope and level of associated environmental impacts. This FONSI incorporates the Final EA by reference.

This EA addresses potential impacts associated with the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative. Both were evaluated for impacts of construction of a Horizontal Integration Facility and a Rocket Propellant 1 storage system and allowing multiple users to prepare and launch vehicles from LC-39A and -39B. The Proposed Action would facilitate and support LC-39A and -39B launch operations and various launch vehicles to meet the demand for lower cost space access. The Proposed Action enables a substantial Federal investment in KSC, particularly LC-39 launch pads and related support facilities, to continue providing both Government and private sector benefits following the Space Shuttle program retirement in 2011. The No Action Alternative assumes no existing facilities renovation or demolition and no new facilities construction.

Environmental impacts from the Proposed Action construction and associated operations were classified as none, minimal, minor, or moderate. Consultation and coordination with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer regarding cultural and historic resource impacts were initiated and subsequent mitigation completed. There would be no impacts from the No Action Alternative, with the exception of a minimal socioeconomic effect.

On the basis of the Final EA, I have determined that the environmental impacts associated with the Proposed Action would not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL:



Robert D. Cabana
Director
John F. Kennedy Space Center



Date