



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Prisons

Washington, DC 20534

November 16, 2020

Subject: Availability of Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Federal Correctional Institution and Federal Prison Camp - Leavenworth, Kansas

The United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), is pleased to make available a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) concerning a proposal to develop a new Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) and Federal Prison Camp (FPC) within property comprising the United State Penitentiary (USP) in Leavenworth, Kansas. The proposed FCI would be designed to house approximately 1,152 medium-security male inmates and the FPC would be designed to house approximately 256 minimum-security male inmates for a total population of approximately 1,408 inmates.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended and the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations, a *Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)* for development of a new FCI and FPC in Leavenworth, Kansas was published in the Federal Register on December 29, 2010 (Volume 75, Number 249). Publication of the DEIS occurred on November 18, 2011, a public hearing was held in Leavenworth on December 11, 2011, and the DEIS public comment period concluded on January 2, 2012. During that time, Federal, state, regional, and local officials, agencies, organizations and the public were invited to provide their comments on the DEIS and the proposed project.

Publication of the Final EIS (FEIS) occurred on April 10, 2015, with the public comment period lasting until May 15, 2015. However, a decision whether to proceed with the proposed action was delayed and, in the absence of appropriated funds for the project, no Record of Decision was issued by the Director of the BOP at that time. Upon appropriation of funds for the project,

the BOP resumed the NEPA process with publication of a *Notice of Intent to Prepare a DSEIS* for development of a new FCI and FPC in the Federal Register (Volume 85, Number 126, June 30, 2020). Preparation of the DSEIS followed and includes updated information concerning the purpose and need for developing a new FCI and FPC in Leavenworth and the potential impacts and mitigation measures associated with the project. Publication of the DSEIS also provides the public and others an additional opportunity to voice their interests and provide comments concerning the proposed action.

The DSEIS considers potential impacts to the natural and manmade environments resulting from the proposed project including land use, socioeconomics, air quality, noise, transportation, utility services, cultural resources, aesthetic and visual resources, hydrological and biological resources, among other topics and is being made available to fulfill the requirements of NEPA.

In planning the development of new Federal correctional facilities, the BOP considers potential alternatives outside of its jurisdiction as well as the use of lands and facilities at or near other Federal correctional facilities. Most facilities within the BOP's North Central Region have been eliminated from consideration due to limitations on available land, infrastructure and/or other resources needed to accommodate such development. However, sufficient land and infrastructure exists at USP Leavenworth and therefore, the BOP continues to focus attention at evaluating the development potential and resulting environmental impacts of constructing and operating a new FCI and FPC within the USP Leavenworth property.

Once construction is completed and the new FCI and FPC are activated, inmates housed at the existing USP and adjoining FPC will be transferred to the new facilities along with the complement of correctional officers and other staff. At that time the USP and FPC will cease housing inmates. The BOP shall conduct a transition study to determine possible future uses or missions for the USP.

The DSEIS, available for viewing at <https://www.proposed-fci-fpc-leavenworth.com/>, will be the subject of a 45-day review period which begins November 20, 2020, and ends January 4, 2021, during which the BOP will conduct a Public Hearing to which all interested persons are invited to attend. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to provide Federal, state, regional and local officials, agencies, organizations and the public an opportunity

to voice their interests and concerns regarding the proposed FCI and FPC and the DSEIS. To ensure the health and safety of the public during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Public Hearing will be held using a virtual meeting service that allows citizens to participate from safe locations. Use a computer, tablet or smartphone to participate during the Public Hearing which will begin at **6:00 PM (CST), Thursday, December 3, 2020.**

Zoom Meeting ID: 874 1549 6088 and Passcode 889062

<https://wspusa.zoom.us/j/87415496088?pwd=YTRrV0E0Z2lsamFoRElxbTFXd0dOQT09>

Or by telephone: 877-829-8910 (toll free), Conference Code: 857288

Written statements and comments concerning the DSEIS and the proposed action will be accepted by the BOP via U.S. mail or email through January 4, 2021, and must be submitted during this time to be assured of consideration to:

- Kimberly S. Hudson, Site Selection Specialist
Construction and Environmental Review Branch
Federal Bureau of Prisons
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Comments can also be submitted via the project website: <https://www.proposed-fci-fpc-leavenworth.com/>. All written comments received during the review period and comments offered at the Public Hearing will be taken into consideration by the BOP. Printed copies of the DSEIS are also available for public viewing at the Leavenworth Public Library, 417 Spruce Street, Leavenworth, Kansas, and the Lansing Community Library, 730 1st Terrace, Suite 1, Lansing, Kansas. Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,



Kimberly S. Hudson
Site Selection Specialist