

MOB6

KC-46A MAIN OPERATING
BASE NO.6 BEDDOWN



HEADQUARTERS AIR
MOBILITY COMMAND

Public Scoping

Environmental Impact Statement



April 2022

- The National Environmental Policy Act
- What is Public Scoping?
- Proposed Action
- Alternatives
- Environmental Resources
- Options for Comment Submittal
- Comments/Questions

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 was enacted to address concerns about federal actions and their effects on the environment.

- Under NEPA, the analysis of environmental consequences is presented in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which accomplishes the following objectives:
 - Identify and describe the affected environment
 - Evaluate the potential environmental consequences of reasonable alternatives
 - Identify environmental permits and specific mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, or reduce adverse environmental impacts, if required
- The NEPA process concludes with a Record of Decision (ROD) that identifies which alternative is selected and outlines any mitigation measures that are required.
- The U.S. Department of the Air Force (DAF) has issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS in accordance with NEPA. Publication of the NOI in the Federal Register initiated the 30-day public scoping period for the proposed KC-46A MOB 6 beddown.

Steps in the EIS Process



An early and open process, conducted in compliance with NEPA, for public involvement and identification of issues and alternatives to be addressed in an EIS

Purpose of Public Scoping:

- Provide the public with information about a proposed action, alternatives, and topics that will be analyzed in the EIS
- Conduct public outreach and receive public input on the information to be presented in the EIS

For this EIS, scoping is being conducted remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Remote scoping is being conducted in accordance with:

- The National Emergency declared by the President on March 13, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendations for social distancing and avoiding large public gatherings
- NEPA and the 2020 version of the implementing regulations at 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 1506.6.

Where Can I Find Information on the Project?

During remote scoping, copies of scoping materials are made available to the public as follows:

- **Electronic Copies on the Project Website:** www.kc46amob6eis.com.
- **Hard Copies at Local Libraries:**

MacDill AFB Area

MacDill AFB Library
Port City Public Library
John F. Germany Public Library

Fairchild AFB Area

Fairchild AFB Library
Spokane Public Library

To request electronic copies by email, or hardcopies by postal mail, please use one of the methods listed below. For printed material requests, the standard U.S. Postal Service shipping timeline will apply. Please consider the environment before requesting printed material.



Postal Mail: Ms. Helen Kellogg, AFCEC/CZN, Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155, JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853



Email: Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil; Subject: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS



Project Website: www.kc46amob6eis.com

After the public scoping period has ended, the DAF will:

- Incorporate public input into the proposal and develop the Draft EIS, which is expected to be completed in Winter 2022/2023.
- Make the Draft EIS available to the public for review for a minimum of 45 days
- Incorporate applicable input on the Draft EIS into the development of the Final EIS, which is anticipated in late 2023; a Record of Decision could be signed no sooner than 30 days after the Final EIS is released.

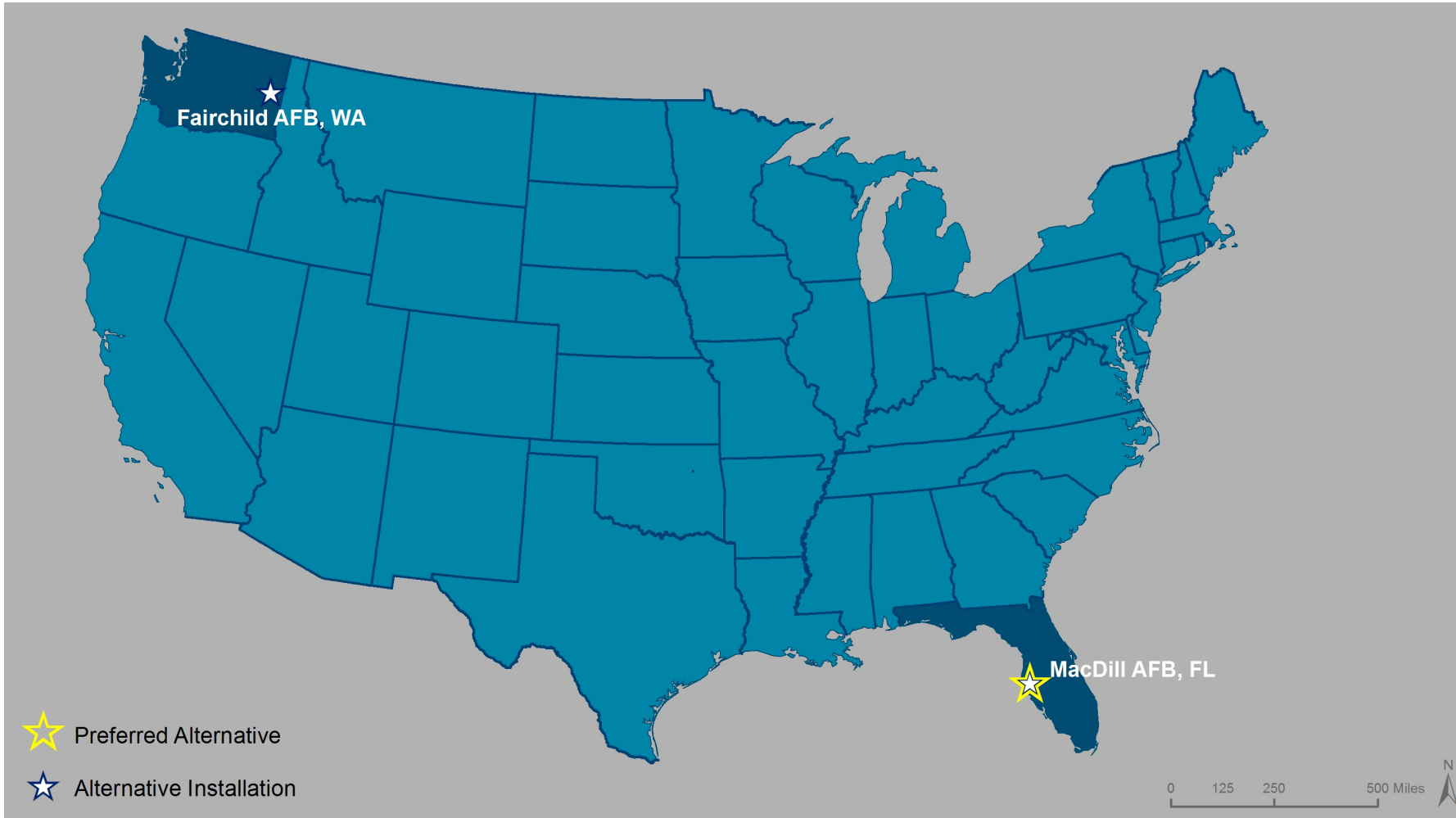
- In April 2006, the DAF completed an Analysis of Alternatives to determine the most appropriate strategy for modernizing the existing aerial refueling tanker aircraft fleet. Based on that analysis, the DAF concluded that a tanker derived from a commercial aircraft would result in the best value. In 2009, the DAF selected the KC-46A to replace the aging refueling tankers in the fleet. Since then, Congressional authority funded the purchase of 179 KC-46A aircraft to be phased into DAF operation by 2029 to modernize the fleet, enhance operations, and increase mission effectiveness.
- To date, the DAF has completed EISs for the KC-46A Formal Training Unit (FTU) and MOB 1, MOB 2, MOB 3, and MOB 4 missions addressing recapitalization (replacement) of existing tanker aircraft through the basing of KC-46A aircraft at Continental U.S. (CONUS) Air Force Bases (AFBs) in Oklahoma, New Hampshire, North Carolina, California, and New Jersey. The MOB 5 NEPA effort is anticipated to begin in 2022.
- The MOB 6 EIS, being prepared by the DAF's Air Mobility Command (AMC), addresses the proposal to replace KC-135 aircraft through the beddown of KC-46A aircraft at one active duty CONUS AFB with an existing aerial refueling mission.
- The DAF's proposed action would base 24 KC-46A Primary Authorized Aircraft (PAA), infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, personnel to support the MOB 6 mission at either of the identified reasonable installation alternatives: MacDill AFB in Florida (Preferred Alternative) or Fairchild AFB in Washington State.

Purpose

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to recapitalize aging tanker aircraft currently utilized by the DAF with the KC-46A model to better address future mission requirements, offer expanded capability, and provide life-cycle cost savings in comparison to continued operation of existing KC-135 Stratotanker.

Need

The Proposed Action is needed because the KC-46A will provide capabilities currently lacking in the existing tanker fleet, resulting in a fully capable, combat operational tanker force to accomplish aerial refueling and related worldwide missions.



Selection Criteria to Identify Reasonable Alternatives :

- Active duty CONUS AFB
- Existing KC-135 mission
- Runways at least 7,000 feet long
- Capacity to support the KC-46A aerial refueling mission.

Reasonable Alternatives:
Proposed Action at MacDill AFB, FL (Preferred Alternative)
Fairchild AFB, WA

Proposed Construction at MacDill AFB

Facility Renovations

ATGL Storage; Building 1042

MPC/AFE; Building 6

AD ARSs x 2; Building 56

AFRC ARSs x 2; Building 53

AFRC OSS; Building 9

Washracks and Birdbath; Facilities 563, 580, and 1359

New Facility Construction

Dash 21 Facility

High Bay Supply/Bulk Storage Warehouse

Facility and Airfield Improvements

FUT; Building 1071

AMU; Building 55

Ed Ctr/ALS; Building 252

AGE; Building 552

Corrosion Control Hangar 1

General Purpose MX Hangar 2

General Purpose MX Hangar 3

General Purpose MX Hangar 4

Fuel Cell Hangar 5

Wheel and Tire Shop; Building 44

BOT; Building 295

Construct Jack Testing Pad in MX

Building; Building 552

Add/Alter Apron & Hydrant Fueling Pits



Proposed Construction at Fairchild AFB

Facility Renovations

KC-46A AMXS & 2 AMUs; Building 2090

KC-135 AMXS & 2 AMUs; Building 2097

2 KC-46A AD ARSs; Building 2005

2 KC-135 AD ARSs; Building 2007

4-Bay Hangar with Backshops; Building 2050

Dash 21, AME, ATGL, Seat Pallet, Engine Storage; Building 1003

AGE MX; Building 1013

KC-46A CTK; Building 1017

New Facility Construction

2-Bay Fuel Cell and Wash Rack Hangar with Back Shops

Mission Planning Center

Installation Deployment Readiness Center

2 KC-46A ANG ARSs

Supply Warehouse

Facility and Airfield Improvements

Flight Simulator Facility/FUT Complex

Expand parking apron and hydrant fuel system

Create engine-run up area

Create enclosed water fill station for deicing operations



Biological Resources

- Threatened and endangered species
- Wildlife and vegetation
- Wetlands and floodplains

Cultural Resources

- Archaeological resources (prehistoric and historic)
- Historic architectural resources
- Traditional resources

Water Resources

- Water quality (surface water and stormwater)
- Groundwater aquifers

Social Resources

- Land Use
- Health and Safety
- Socioeconomics
- Environmental Justice

Other Considerations

- Airfield management and aircraft safety
- Air Quality
- Geology and Soils
- Noise
- Infrastructure and Utilities
- Transportation
- Hazardous materials and waste

You are Invited To Submit Comments

Comments, suggestions, and relevant information are welcomed on the KC-46A MOB 6 Beddown proposal. Please submit comments using one of the following methods:

- **Postal Mail:** Ms. Helen Kellogg, AFCEC/CZN, Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155, JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853
- **Email:** Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil; Subject: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS
- **Project Website:** www.kc46amob6eis.com

The DAF also welcomes comments under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800).

To ensure the DAF has sufficient time to consider public input, please submit all comments within the 30-day public scoping period.

Thank you for your participation!

