

Appendix H
Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE**Notice of Availability****DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE WALLOPS FLIGHT FACILITY LAUNCH RANGE**

In accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) invites public comment on the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Expansion of the Wallops Flight Facility Launch Range, Wallops Island, Virginia. NASA has analyzed and addressed the potential impacts of expanding NASA and Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) facilities to support launching up to an additional six (6) medium large class suborbital and orbital Expendable Launch Vehicles from WFF. The Federal Aviation Administration Office of Commercial Space Transportation has served as a Cooperating Agency in preparing the draft EA.

Under the Proposed Action, physical improvements to WFF may include any or all of the following:

On north Wallops Island, NASA would construct a dedicated payload fueling facility and MARS or a commercial entity would build a new payload processing facility. On south Wallops Island, MARS would construct a new launch complex including a liquid fueling facility, pad access ramp, launch pad, and deluge system in approximately the same location as the existing Pad 0-A. Transportation improvements would be made by NASA and MARS to allow the movement of cargo to the new facilities on Wallops Island. Such improvements could include construction of new roads and minor upgrades to existing roads. Several existing facilities could undergo minor interior modifications to support the additional launches; these facilities could include launch control buildings, communication support systems, radar, and antenna improvements.

As the Proposed Action would involve Federally-funded or authorized construction in the 100-year floodplain and jurisdictional wetlands, this Notice also serves as NASA's means for facilitating early public review as required by Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management and Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands.

The Proposed Action would have impacts to both environmental and socioeconomic resources, however most are minor and of short duration and none are considered significant. Impacts would be mitigated to the greatest extent practicable to minimize the effects on resource areas.

The draft EA is available for review between April 25, 2009 and May 30, 2009.

Comments are requested by May 30, 2009.

Written comments should be submitted to:

NEPA Program Manager
NASA Wallops Flight Facility
Code 250.W/EWLR EA
Building F-160, Room W-160
Wallops Island, VA 23337
Fax - 757-824-1819

Comments may also be sent electronically to Joshua.A.Bundick@nasa.gov.
Subject: EWLR EA.

The draft EA may be viewed on-line at
http://sites.wff.nasa.gov/code250/docs/EWLR_DEA.pdf

The draft EA is available for review at the following locations:

NASA WFF Technical Library Building E-106 Wallops Island, Virginia 23337 (757) 824-1065 Hours: Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Eastern Shore Public Library 23610 Front Street Accomack, Virginia 23301 (757) 787-3400 Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thurs: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sat: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
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Island Library
4077 Main Street
Chincoteague, Virginia 23336
(757) 336-3460
Hours: Mon: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Tues: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Wed, Fri, Sat: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

For further information or to request a copy of the draft EA, please contact the Wallops Flight Facility Public Affairs Office at (757) 824-1579.

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