

# What to include in your Comments

The purpose of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is to address probable significant adverse impacts and reasonable alternatives to a project or projects.

The official comment period on the Draft EIS (DEIS) will last 62 days starting on July 16, 2010 and will conclude on September 15, 2010. Any interested person is allowed, and encouraged, to submit comments on an EIS.

It is most helpful if comments focus on one or more of the following subjects:

- › Information specifically included in the DEIS;
- › Relevance of the purpose and need statement;
- › Adequacy of range of alternatives and alternative analysis;
- › Adequacy of impact analysis or documentation;
- › Adequacy and feasibility of mitigation measures; and/or;
- › Procedural matters.

Where possible, comments should be substantive, not subjective and should use quotations and other specific references to the text of the DEIS and related documents.

Matters that could have been raised with specificity during the comment period on the DEIS may not be considered if they are raised for the first time later in the decision process.

# How to submit your Comments

Equal weight will be given to all oral and written comments regarding the DEIS. Comments will be considered and responded to in the FEIS.

## >> Online

Online comments may be submitted using a form found at: <http://www.vhb.com/pvd/eis/>

Or an email submitted to [tfgreen@vhb.com](mailto:tfgreen@vhb.com)

## >> Written

Written comments may be submitted at the sign-in table of the Public Hearing, or mailed directly to the following address:

Mr. Richard Doucette  
Environmental Program Manager  
FAA New England Region  
12 New England Executive Park  
Burlington, MA 01803

## >> Oral

All oral comments presented in person at the Public Hearing will be recorded by a stenographer and a transcript of comments will be produced.

Where possible, try not to repeat comments already offered by other speakers. All comments will be given equal weight.

# Welcome



# Public Hearing

## >> Step 1

Fill out a sign in form and drop it in the box.

## >> Step 2

Choose how you would like to comment.

- › Oral
- › Written
- › Online

For further details turn to the back of this brochure.

## >> Step 3

Take a seat in the hearing room.



# Public Hearing

>> Your comments matter to us

# Public Hearing

This public hearing is conducted in accordance with Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 327, in fulfillment of the FAA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 Permit Application.

- › Public **hearings** are meetings where people make comments and state opinions concerning a document that is under consideration.
- › Public hearings are overseen by a hearing official.
- › Although public hearings are *not* a question-and-answer format, it gives you and other interested parties an opportunity to provide comments concerning the project.
- › All comments will be added to the public record and will be taken into consideration before the FAA issues a record-of-decision (ROD). FAA will also respond to the comments in writing in the FEIS.

Sign-in forms will be available at the registration desks to make sure we have your correct mailing address and contact information.

# Guidelines for Speaking

The hearing is an opportunity to listen to comments from the public regarding the Draft EIS (DEIS). Everyone who wants to offer oral comments will be given that opportunity.

Please Note: Comments/questions will not be responded to during the public hearing, but a stenographer will record them and they will be responded to in the Final EIS (FEIS).

- › If you would like to present oral comments, please take a number near the sign-in table.
- › Numbers will be called in order.
- › When your number/name is called, please proceed to the microphone to present your comments so that they can be recorded.
- › When presenting comments, first please provide your name so that the stenographer has an accurate record.
- › All individuals, including elected officials, please limit your comments to 3 minutes in order to ensure everyone has an opportunity to provide comments.
- › Be respectful of the speakers and please do not interrupt.
- › Silence your cell phone's ringer and please do not use your cell phone in the hearing room.

# Next Steps

- › Review of DEIS by public and agencies
- › Submit comments on DEIS by close of comment period on Wednesday, September 15, 2010.
- › FAA reviews comments.
- › FAA prepares Final EIS (FEIS) with additional information on the preferred alternative and responses to comments.
- › FAA issues Record of Decision (ROD), anticipated in 2011.
- › RIAC secures necessary permits.
- › Project construction schedule to be determined by RIAC and FAA, subject to available funding.



## Public Hearing

>> Your comments matter to US