

Department of the Air Force**Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Airborne Laser Demonstration Phase**

AGENCIES: Department of Defense, United States Air Force, Air Force Materiel Command, Space and Missile Systems Center, Phillips Laboratory, DOD.

SUMMARY: The United States Air Force (USAF) will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential impacts of the Demonstrator Phase of the Airborne Laser (ABL) Program. This program is an Air Force Advanced Technology Demonstration program to develop and then demonstrate the necessary technologies required to acquire, track, and then destroy theater ballistic missiles during boost phase. The ABL Demonstrator Phase includes the design, development, integration, and testing of a weapons-class Chemical Oxygen Iodine Laser (COIL) on the aircraft. The ABL Demonstrator Phase is scheduled to begin in January 1997 and be completed by the end of 2001. The decision to be made by the Air Force, is to determine where the ABL Demonstrator Phase test activities will occur.

The ABL Program will require a Home Base, a Diagnostic Test Range and an Expanded-Area Test Range. The Home Base will be the location for the ABL Demonstrator Aircraft, its flightline maintenance, ground test facilities, fuel storage and transfer, laser pressure recovery systems, and technical and support personnel. The Diagnostic Test Range is the location for aircraft worthiness and flight certification testing, air refueling, modification testing, communication and navigation system testing, integrated weapon system checkouts without laser operations, short range integrated aircraft and weapons system checkouts and engagements with low- and high-power laser operations, short range launch and recovery operations, and target and debris recovery. The Expanded-Area Test Range is the location for long-range integrated aircraft and weapon system checkouts and low- and high-power laser operations, and target and debris recovery.

Alternative sites for the Home Base include Phillips Laboratory at Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, NM, and Edwards AFB near Lancaster, CA. Potential Test Ranges include: the Western Test Range adjacent to Vandenberg AFB near

Lompoc, CA; White Sands Missile Range near Las Cruces, NM; and Edwards AFB near Lancaster, CA.

The Air Force is planning to conduct a series of scoping meetings to assist in determining the issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS, and to involve the public to help the USAF identify those areas of concern. Comments received as a result of the scoping process will be used to assist in identifying potential impacts to the quality of the human environment. To provide a forum for the community to make oral comments, scoping meetings are scheduled for:

April 4, 1995, 7 p.m. at the Ramada Classic Hotel, Albuquerque, NM.

April 18, 1995, 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, Las Cruces, NM.

May 3, 1995, 7 p.m. at the Desert Inn, Lancaster, CA.

May 10, 1995, 7 p.m. at the Best Western Porto Finale, Lompoc, CA.

The purpose of these meetings is to identify the environmental issues and concerns that should be analyzed to (1) support the ABL, (2) solicit comments on the proposed action and (3) solicit potential alternatives for consideration in developing the ABL EIS. Public hearings are proposed to be conducted in 1996 for the purpose of obtaining comments on the Draft EIS. Dates, times, and places will be determined and public notification will be made.

To ensure the USAF will have sufficient time to consider public scoping comments on environmental issues to be included in the Draft EIS, and alternatives to be included in the final plan, comments and proposals should be forwarded to the address below by May 26, 1995. However, comments will be accepted and considered through the process.

Please direct comments or requests for further information concerning the ABL EIS to: Michelle Hedrick, Phillips Laboratory/S,E, 3550 Aberdeen Ave. S.E., Bldg. 434, Albuquerque, NM 87117-5776, Toll free number: 1-800-343-1282.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Environmental impact statement, U.S. Air Force, Phillips Laboratory, Notice of intent, Airborne laser, Kirtland AFB, Edwards AFB, White Sands Missile Range, Vandenberg AFB.

Patsy J. Conner,

Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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Department of the Navy**Government Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing**

AGENCY: Department of the Navy.

ACTION: Notice of availability of inventions for licensing.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are assigned to the United States Government as represented by the Secretary of the Navy and are available for licensing by the Department of the Navy.

Request for copies of the patent applications cited should be directed to the Office of Naval Research, ONR 00CC, Ballston Tower One, 800 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia 22217-5660 and must include the application serial number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. R.J. Erickson, Staff Patent Attorney, Office of Naval Research, ONR 00CC, Ballston Tower One, 800 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia 22217-5660, telephone (703) 696-4001.

Patent Application Serial No. 08/287,027: Fiber-Optic Rotary Joint with Bundle Collimator Assemblies; filed August 8, 1994;

Patent Application Serial No. 08/287,029: A Fiber-Optic Bundle and Collimator Assembly; filed August 8, 1994; and

Patent Application Serial No. 08/287,028: Method For Making Fiber-Optic Bundle Collimator Assembly; filed August 8, 1994.

Dated: March 14, 1995.

M.D. Schetsle,

LT, JAGC, USNR, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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CNO Executive Panel; Closed Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2), notice is hereby given that the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Executive Panel Task Force on Naval Surface Warship Design will meet April 10-11, 1995, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., each day at 4401 Ford Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia. These sessions will be closed to the public.

The purpose of this meeting is to conduct discussions about Future Surface Warships Designs. Matters to be examined constitute classified information that is specifically authorized by Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense and are, in fact, properly classified