



FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is announcing the availability of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for the Front Range Airport Launch Site Operator License, Spaceport Colorado. The Draft PEA was prepared to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the FAA issuing a launch site operator license to the Adams County Board of County Commissioners (the BOCC) to operate a commercial space launch site, called "Spaceport Colorado," at the Front Range Airport (FTG), in Watkins, Colorado. A launch site operator license would allow the BOCC to offer the commercial space launch site to commercial launch providers for the operation of horizontal take-off and horizontal landing reusable launch vehicles.

Issuing a launch site operator license is considered a major Federal action subject to environmental review under NEPA. Under the Proposed Action described in the Draft PEA, the FAA would: 1) issue a launch site operator license to the BOCC for the operation of a commercial space launch site at FTG, and 2) conditionally approve the modified Airport Layout Plan showing the launch site boundary. The Proposed Action does not include the approval of any launches. Any future application for a launch license would be subject to a separate environmental review, as explained in the Draft PEA. The Draft PEA is available on the FAA website: https://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/ast/environmental/nepa_docs/review/documents_progress/front_range/.

As part of the Draft PEA public participation process, the FAA will hold a public meeting to solicit comments from the public concerning the content and analysis in the Draft PEA.

Date/Time: May 17, 2018, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Location: Front Range Airport, Cafeteria

5200 Front Range Parkway, Watkins, CO

The public meeting will include an open house workshop from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm and an FAA presentation from 6:00 pm to 6:15 pm, followed by a public comment period from 6:15 pm to 8:00 pm, during which members of the public may provide up to a 3-minute statement. The FAA will transcribe oral comments.

The FAA also invites members of the public to submit written comments on the Draft PEA, responses to which will be included in the Final PEA. Please submit all comments by May 25, 2018 to ensure they are considered during the preparation of the Final PEA. In addition to providing verbal comments during the public meeting, the public can provide written comments in three ways: 1) provide written comments at the public meeting, 2) email comments to Spaceport_Colorado_PEA@icf.com, or 3) mail written comments to: Stacey M. Zee, FAA Environmental Specialist, c/o ICF, 9300 Lee Hwy, Fairfax, VA 22031. All comments received during the meeting and comment period, whether provided in writing or verbally, will be given equal weight and will be taken into consideration in the preparation of the Final PEA.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment –including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask the FAA in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, the FAA cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.