

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

OKLAHOMA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD PROPOSED SHAWNEE READINESS CENTER POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

1. Introduction

The Oklahoma Army National Guard (OKARNG) prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to identify and evaluate potential environmental effects from the construction and operation of the proposed Shawnee Readiness Center (RC) in Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma. The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S. Code [USC] §4321 et seq.); implementing regulations issued by the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ); 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500-1508; and 32 CFR Part 651, *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*. As set forth in Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 5105.77, *National Guard Bureau* (NGB), the NGB is a joint activity of the DoD and as such must comply with the NEPA.

2. Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

Proposed Action: The Proposed Action includes two primary elements: 1) the construction and operation of a new Shawnee RC to support training, administrative, and logistical requirements for the OKARNG; 2) decommissioning and disposal of the existing Shawnee RC and Holdenville RC. The Proposed Action would include the construction of a new Shawnee RC. The OKARNG has identified the following components to be included:

- *Primary Facilities (92,443 sf, 2.1 acres)*
 - Readiness Center main building (46,153 sf)
 - Controlled Waste Facility (330 sf)
 - Flammable Materials Facility (110 sf)
 - Backup/Emergency Generator (1 unit)
 - Rigid Pavement for military equipment parking (44,100 sf)
 - Overhead Protection (1,200 sf)
 - Access Control Building (550 sf)
- *Supporting Facilities (138,789 sf, 3.2 acres)*
 - Rigid Concrete Paving (82,359 sf)
 - Flexible Paving (49,455 sf)
 - Security Fencing (1,162 linear feet)
 - Rigid Curbing (1,678 linear feet)
 - Sidewalks (6,975 sf)
 - Wash Platform
 - Exterior Security Lighting
 - Readiness Center Loading Dock
 - Loading Ramp
 - Detached Facility Sign (1 unit)
 - Exterior Fire Protection
 - Flagpoles (1 unit)
 - Refuse Collection Facility (1 unit)

The proposed Shawnee RC would support administrative functions, equipment storage, and training operations. Administration functions would occur five days per week with 2-day training assemblies occurring two to three times per month. The proposed facility would support approximately 18 full-time and 2,088 part-time OKARNG personnel annually. The 18 full-time permanent employees would include 8 enlisted personnel, 1 officer, and 9 civilians. These permanent employees would support the 2,088 part-time or traditional OKARNG soldiers using the facility for training, including 1,968 enlisted personnel and 120 officers. Military equipment stored on-site would include 56 wheeled vehicles and 42 trailers. Light training would occur at the proposed Shawnee RC, which could include basic weapons training using practice (i.e., inert) ordnance. No live fire activities would occur. Only light vehicle maintenance would occur on site, such as Preventative Maintenance Checks and Services, which include vehicle inspection and routine maintenance, such as adding oil or antifreeze to vehicles.

The two existing RCs would be decommissioned and transferred back to their respective cities as part of the Proposed Action. The existing 12,650-sf Shawnee RC is located at 519 W Saratoga Street, Shawnee, OK in

Pottawatomie County. The 17,708-sf Holdenville RC is located at 1400 Airport Road, Holdenville, OK in Hughes County.

The **purpose** of the Proposed Action is to provide a consolidated, functional, and modern RC to support the training, administrative, and logistical requirements of the OKARNG units that would occupy the facility, including Battery A / 160th Field Artillery Battalion and Battery B/160th Field Artillery Battalion. The Proposed Action is **needed** due to the current condition of the existing Shawnee and Holdenville RCs and the lack of space provided for training, administrative, and logistical needs. The construction and operation of the new RC would provide for training areas, adequate storage space for MTOE, sufficient area to conduct equipment maintenance activities, and parking space.

Alternatives Considered: The OKARNG evaluated two alternatives: 1) the Preferred Action Alternative, which would implement the Proposed Action, as described above; and 2) the No Action Alternative. In addition to the Preferred Action Alternative and No Action Alternative, the OKARNG considered the following alternatives: 1) implement a reduced-scale alternative; 2) construct the proposed Shawnee RC at the existing location; and 3) use an existing ARNG building in east-central Oklahoma. These alternatives were eliminated from further consideration because they did not meet one or more of the screening criteria.

3. Environmental Analysis

The potential environmental impacts associated with the Proposed Action are fully described in the EA. The EA identifies the environmental resources that could be affected by the Proposed Action, and determines the significance of the impacts, if any, to each of these resources. Based on the EA's analysis, the OKARNG determined that the known and potential adverse impacts from the Proposed Action on land use and cover, air quality, noise, topography, geology, and soil, water resources, biological resources, cultural resources, socioeconomics, environmental justice, infrastructure and hazardous and toxic materials/waste would not be significant.

4. Mitigation

All resource categories evaluated in the EA resulted in a finding of "minor", "negligible", or "no impact"; therefore, additional mitigation measures are not required.

5. Regulations

The Proposed Action would not violate NEPA, the CEQ Regulations, 32 CFR Part 651, or other Federal, state, or local environmental regulations.

6. Commitment to Implementation

The NGB and the OKARNG affirm their commitment to implement this EA in accordance with NEPA. Implementation is dependent on funding, and this project would be a Military Construction (MILCON) funded project. The OKARNG and the NGB would ensure that adequate funds are provided to achieve the goals and objectives set forth in this EA.

7. Public Review and Comment

The EA and draft FONSI were available for public review and comment for 30 days following publication of a public notice on [Date], in *The Shawnee News-Star*. Copies of the EA and draft FONSI were available for review at the Shawnee Public Library located at 101 N Philadelphia Ave, Shawnee, OK 74801. Comments were accepted through [Date]. No comments were received.

8. Finding of No Significant Impact

After careful review of the EA and receiving no public comments, I have concluded that implementation of the Proposed Action does not have a significant impact on the quality of the human or natural environment. This analysis fulfills the requirements of NEPA and the CEQ Regulations. An Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared, and the NGB is issuing this FONSI and implementing the Proposed Action.

Date

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