



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX**

75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

February 14, 2006

Raymond H. Marler, Director  
Strategic Programs  
U.S. Army - National Training Center  
PO Box 10309 (ATTN: SFEIS Comments)  
Fort Irwin, CA 92310

**Subject:** Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (SFEIS), Army National Training Center, Addition of Maneuver Training Land, Fort Irwin, San Bernardino County, California (CEQ #20060012)

Dear Mr. Marler:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA reviewed the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) and provided comments to the U.S. Army on June 15, 2004. We rated the SDEIS as Environmental Concerns - Insufficient Information (EC-2) because of concerns for construction-related air emissions in nonattainment areas for ozone and particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM-10). We also requested the Army's Spill Prevention Plan incorporate procedures for contacting the National Response Center and that the SFEIS identify mitigation measures associated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Biological Opinion for the desert tortoise and the Lane Mountain milk-vetch.

We appreciate the inclusion of quantified construction emissions estimates and mitigation measures to reduce these impacts in the SFEIS. We recommend a commitment to implement these measures be included in the Record of Decision (ROD). The SFEIS also states that the Spill Prevention Plan was modified to include protocols on reporting spills to the National Response Center. Finally, specific mitigation measures are identified in the SFEIS associated with the Biological Opinion for the desert tortoise, and management measures identified for the protection of the Lane Mountain milk-vetch.

We value the opportunity to review this FEIS and thank the U.S. Army for effectively responding to our comments. If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 972-3988 or Karen Vitulano, the lead reviewer for this document, at 415-947-4178 or [vitulano.karen@epa.gov](mailto:vitulano.karen@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/

Duane James, Manager  
Environmental Review Office  
Communities and Ecosystems Division