

Environmental Impact Statement

OPTIMIZATION OF POWDER RIVER TRAINING COMPLEX

Ellsworth Air Force Base



What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

- A report of the environmental effects of a proposed action
- Includes analysis of effects to environmental and social resources, such as:

Biological Resources

Water Resources

Cultural Resources

Natural Resources

Air Quality

Socioeconomics

Noise

Airspace Management

Safety



- Required by the National Environmental Policy Act
- Draft EIS published for review and comment by the public

Public Involvement in the EIS Process

- Publication of a Notice of Intent (or NOI) to prepare an EIS formally begins the process
- During the scoping period the agency provides information on the Proposed Action and solicits public comments
- Comments received during scoping are used to refine the alternatives and determine the environmental issues to address in the Draft EIS
- Once prepared, the Draft EIS is published for review for a minimum of 45 days
- The public is invited to provide specific comments on the analyses in the Draft EIS
- Those comments are addressed in the Final EIS
- Once prepared, the Final EIS is published which initiates the 30-day waiting period
- The Record of Decision is issued after the waiting period

