

Environmental Impact Statement

Scoping Topics

The EIS will describe the Affected Environment for each resource area and the Environmental Consequences of the proposed action and alternatives on each resource area

Air Quality – launch emissions; levels of criteria pollutants; emissions from potential accidents

Airspace – use of airspace; impacts to other operations; changes to flight routes

Biological Resources – critical habitat and protected areas; wildlife movement corridors; threatened, endangered, or sensitive species; wetlands

Cultural Resources – historic and cultural structures; archaeological sites; Native American sites

Geology and Soils – mineral depletion; soil erosion; geologic hazards; hydrology and drainage patterns

Hazardous Materials and Waste – releases, transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials and waste

Land Use and Section 4(f) – conversion of farmland; existing land use plans; parks and recreational facilities

Noise – existing ambient noise levels; exposure of sensitive receptors to excessive noise; sonic booms

Health and Safety – launch operations hazards; spills, fires, and explosions; traffic and mechanical accidents

Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice – employment; demographics; disproportionate and adverse effects on minority and low-income populations

Transportation and Infrastructure – vehicular traffic and roadways; air traffic patterns; parking; utilities

Visual Resources – scenic vistas and resources; aesthetic quality of sites and sources of light and glare

Water Resources – surface water; ground water; waste water treatment facilities; floodplains; riparian issues

Cumulative Impacts – past, present, and foreseeable actions with potential for environmental impacts

Induced Impacts – impacts that could arise from activities associated with proposed action and alternatives



West edge of proposed Southwest Regional Spaceport vertical launch area (looking east)

***Please provide input with respect to the above resource areas
by March 3, 2006***