

EIS for the Shiloh Launch Complex

Brevard and Volusia Counties,
Florida

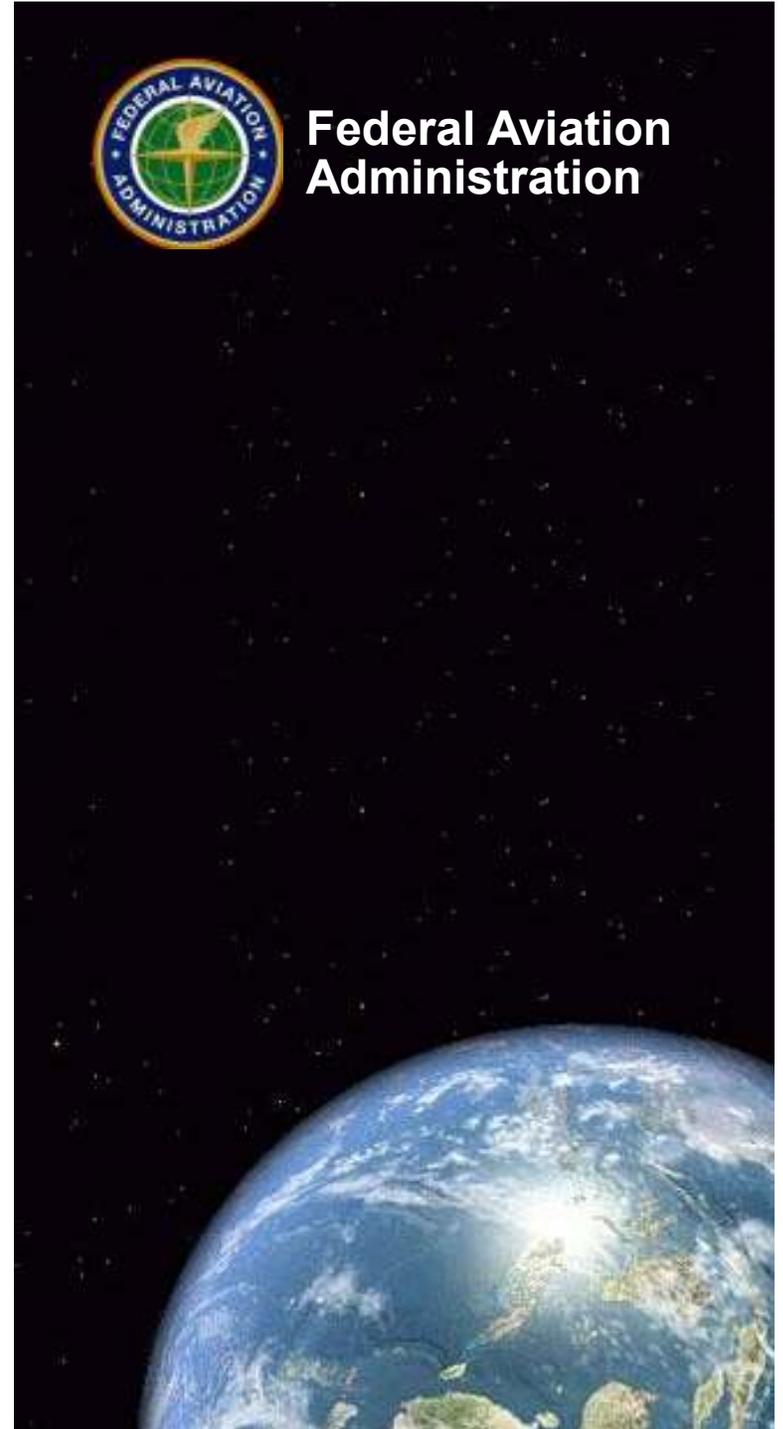
Public Scoping Meeting

By: **Pam Underwood and Stacey Zee**, FAA,
Office of Commercial Space Transportation

Dates: **February 11, 2014 and
February 12, 2014**



**Federal Aviation
Administration**



Why are we here?

- Space Florida proposes to establish a non-Federal launch site that is State-controlled and State-managed. Space Florida's goal is to provide launch site options other than Federal installations/ranges.
- Space Florida proposes to construct and operate a commercial space launch site, called the "Shiloh Launch Complex" in Brevard and Volusia counties, Florida
- Space Florida must apply for a Launch Site Operator License from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Office of Commercial Space Transportation
- FAA licenses and regulates U.S. commercial space launch and reentry activity, as well as the operation of commercial launch and reentry sites



Who is here?



The FAA is the lead Federal agency



Space Florida, the applicant, is the spaceport authority and aerospace development organization for the State of Florida. The organization's mission is to strengthen Florida's position as a global leader in aerospace research, investment, exploration and commerce



The proposed property to be evaluated for the commercial space launch site is presently under the control of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) within the boundaries of Kennedy Space Center (KSC). As a cooperating agency, NASA will provide the FAA with relevant information needed to describe actions that would be taken by the agency, including the land use process required to provide the property to the State of Florida, as part of the proposed project.



The FAA requested that the National Park Service be a cooperating agency in the development of the EIS based on the proximity of the proposed project area to the Canaveral National Seashore and other historic properties.



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) currently manages the land within the boundaries of NASA KSC as part of the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. As a cooperating agency, the USFWS will provide special expertise with respect to the Refuge and those resources covered by relevant statutory authorities.



The Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will provide FAA with all EIS documentation requirements that are unique to its Regulatory Program outlined in 33 CFR §325.



FAA Licensing Authority

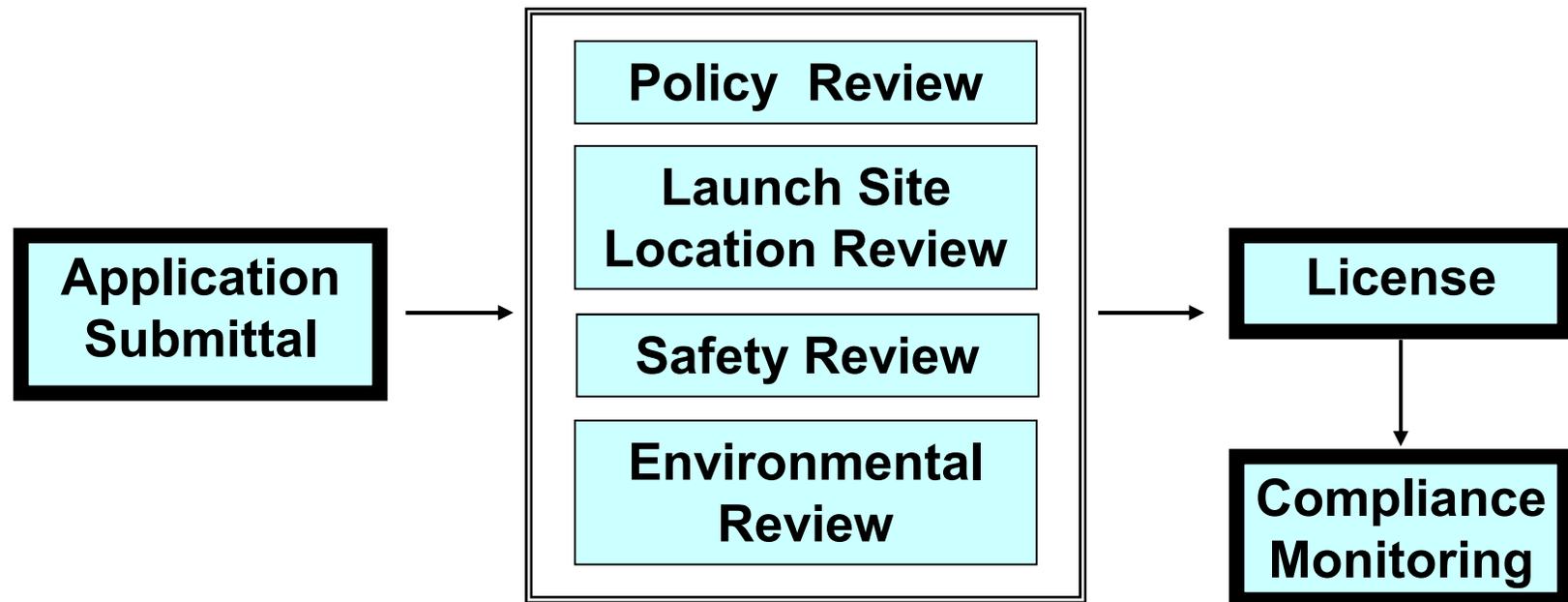
- FAA issues licenses for:
 - Launch (orbital and suborbital)
 - Reentry (purposeful)
 - Operation of a launch site
 - Operation of a reentry site

- FAA issues experimental permits for developmental reusable suborbital rockets



FAA only licenses commercial activities

How does the Licensing/Permitting process work?



Why is an environmental review necessary?

- Issuing Launch Site Operator Licenses must be reviewed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- NEPA requires the FAA to identify and analyze environmental impacts of issuing a Launch Site Operator License



What is the Proposed Action?

- FAA would issue a Launch Site Operator License to Space Florida that would allow Space Florida to offer the Shiloh Launch Complex to commercial launch operators
- The Shiloh Launch Complex would accommodate launches of liquid fueled, medium- to heavy-lift class orbital and suborbital vertical launch vehicles
- Space Florida would construct and operate two vertical launch facilities and two off-site operations support areas
- Up to 24 launches per year (12 launches per vertical launch facility), as well as up to 24 static fire engine tests or wet dress rehearsals per year (12 per vertical launch facility)



What are the alternatives?

- Proposed Action – Issue a Launch Site Operator License to Space Florida
- No Action Alternative – FAA would not issue a Launch Site Operator License to Space Florida
- Alternatives suggested during the scoping process will be considered for inclusion in the EIS
- FAA preferred alternative will be identified in the EIS



What will be analyzed in the EIS?

- Air Quality
- Coastal Resources
- Compatible Land Use
- Construction Impacts
- Department of Transportation Act: Section 4(f)
- Farmlands
- Fish, Wildlife, and Plants
- Floodplains
- Hazardous Materials, Pollution Prevention, and Solid Waste
- Historical, Architectural, Archaeological, and Cultural Resources
- Light Emissions and Visual Impacts
- Noise
- Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice
- Water Quality
- Wetlands
- Natural Resources and Energy Supply
- Induced Impacts
- Cumulative Impacts



Agency Coordination

- Endangered Species Act, Section 7
- Department of Transportation Act, Section 4(f)
- Clean Water Act, Section 404, Wetlands Delineation
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Section 106



What is the scoping schedule?

- December 26, 2013 – Notice of Intent in the *Federal Register*
- February 11 and 12, 2014 – Public scoping meetings to provide information and receive comments
- February 21, 2014 – FAA requests scoping comments be submitted to be considered in the Draft EIS



What are the next steps?

- Coordinate and consult with agencies
- Develop and release Draft EIS
 - 45-Day Public Comment Period
 - Hold public hearings on Draft EIS during public comment period
- Address comments on the Draft EIS
- Develop and release Final EIS
- 30-day waiting period
- Issue Record of Decision



Where can I get more information?

- **Registration table**

- Handouts and comment forms
- Request Notifications and Updates about the Draft EIS

- **Website – project link is listed on:**

http://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/ast/environmental/nepa_docs/review/documents_progress/shiloh_launch_statement/.

- **The Draft EIS will be published in local libraries:**

- Cocoa Beach Library
- Titusville Public Library
- Merritt Island Public Library
- New Smyrna Beach Public Library
- Cape Canaveral Public Library
- Mims/Scottsmoore Public Library
- Satellite Beach Public Library
- West Melbourne Public Library



Administrative Points

- Please sign up at the registration table
 - To present oral comments/statements
 - To request notification when the Draft EIS is released
- Submit written comments at the comment table or use the methods described in the Factsheets
- All comments must be received by February 21, 2014



Thank you for your participation

- Scoping is your opportunity to provide comments to help the FAA improve the EIS analysis

