

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR A MICROGRID WITH BACKUP POWER AT FORT SILL, OKLAHOMA

U.S. Army Garrison Fort Sill has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze and evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed construction, operation, and maintenance of a microgrid with backup power at Fort Sill. Publication of this notice begins the 30-day public review and comment period. This 30-day public review and comment period is being conducted in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 USC 4321 et seq.) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA, 54 USC 306308) and implementing regulations 36 CFR 800.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide secure and reliable access to energy resources at Fort Sill. The proposed action is needed to sustain critical mission capabilities and mitigate risks posed by energy disruptions that could degrade Fort Sill's capabilities.

This project is similar in terms of purpose and location to the previously consulted 2019 Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Renewable Energy and Energy Resiliency Project. Because concerns with the project area were previously requested from all consulting parties and none were provided; there are no identified historic properties within the area of potential effect; and, the previous finding of no historic properties affected for the 2019 consultation, it is Fort Sill's finding pursuant to NHPA Section 106 for the proposed microgrid undertaking that no historic properties will be affected.

This notice serves to provide an opportunity to comment on the final draft EA and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The purpose of public comment is to provide an opportunity for the public to submit comments on the proposed action prior to a final decision by the responsible official. Public comments received in response to this solicitation will help Fort Sill identify issues for inclusion in the environmental analysis for this proposal.

The draft EA and draft FONSI are available for online viewing at Fort Sill's website: <http://sill-www.army.mil/USAG/dpw/Environmental.html>. These documents are also available for in person review at the Environmental Office, Building 2515 at Fort Sill, the Lawton Public Library, 110 SW 4th St., Lawton, or the Nye Library, 1640 Randolph Road, Fort Sill.

Comments should be postmarked no later than 30 days after publication of this notice so they can be included in the final EA. Submit comments by email to Richard.a.mcdaniel49.civ@army.mil or by postal mail to Richard McDaniel, NEPA Coordinator, Fort Sill DPW-EQD, 2515 Ringgold Road, Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503.