



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 6

**1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733**

July 11, 2012

Mr. John F. Barrera
NEPA Program Manager
Building 642S Taylor Road
Fort Bliss, Texas 79916

Dear Mr. Barrera:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 has reviewed the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the Construction and Training Use of a Multipurpose Machine Gun and Grenade Launcher Range at Fort Bliss, Texas. The proposed action would include construction of a machine gun range and a grenade launcher range adjacent to the cantonment area. This will provide soldiers with necessary flexibility in weapons qualifications training. EPA offers the following comments for your consideration in preparation of the Final EA.

- If training is to be conducted between the hours of 10:00 PM and 7:00 AM; please calculate an average day-night sound level (Ldn). This sound measurement would more accurately reflect the effects of the proposed action at lower ambient sound levels that occur during night.
- Please include all comments received concerning the DEA.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments for the Draft EA. Please send two copies of the Final EA to my attention upon completion. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, do not hesitate to contact Keith Hayden of my staff, at 214-665-2133 or hayden.keith@epa.gov for assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rhonda Smith", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Rhonda Smith
Chief, Office of Planning and
Coordination