

The US Department of the Treasury (Treasury), Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) announced in the *Federal Register* on November 6, 2020 the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the **Proposed Construction and Operation of a Replacement Currency Production Facility (CPF) at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)** in Prince George's County, Maryland. The Proposed Action would construct and operate an up to 1 million square-foot CPF within the National Capital Region (NCR). In

accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Draft EIS analyzes potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts and recommends mitigation measures to reduce potential adverse impacts.

The Proposed Action would replace Treasury's existing and obsolete currency production functions located in downtown Washington, DC (DC Facility), and would provide Treasury with a modern, scalable, sufficiently sized production facility within the NCR that meets Treasury's needs. The Proposed Action would result in more efficient currency production, while allowing Treasury to maintain its presence within the NCR. Following construction of the Proposed Action, currency manufacturing at the DC Facility would be phased out.

The *Federal Register* announcement initiated a 45-day public comment period during which Treasury is seeking your input. Treasury will consider your comments and use them to prepare and publish a Final EIS before making any decision regarding Proposed Action implementation. The Draft EIS and related informational materials are available for review online on the project website: <u>https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/home/bep-replacement-project</u>. If you cannot access the Draft EIS materials online, please send a request for information to the below address.

Please submit written comments on the Draft EIS or requests for additional information to:

ATTN. Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) Project EIS US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Baltimore District Planning Division 2 Hopkins Plaza, 10th Floor Baltimore, MD 21201 <u>or</u>

BEP-EIS@usace.army.mil

Treasury is also holding a virtual public meeting regarding the Draft EIS and invites your participation. This virtual public meeting includes (1) an online reading room, available at <u>https://bep-eis.consultation.ai/</u> for the duration of the public comment period, that contains informational materials, and (2) a public webinar on December 2, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The link to the public webinar is available on the project website: <u>https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/home/bep-replacement-project</u>; alternatively, you may call in by phone to 1-866-692-3580 using access code 130 592 2057. Verbal comments will be accepted during the public webinar.

Treasury requests your comments on the Draft EIS be sent by December 21, 2020 to ensure equitable consideration in the Final EIS. If you have any further questions about the Proposed Action, you may contact Mr. Harvey Johnson, USACE – Baltimore District, Programs and Project Management Division, by email at <u>BEP-EIS@usace.army.mil</u>. Treasury has also established a webpage that contains additional information about the Proposed Action, including a Digital EIS (i.e., a digital representation of the data presented in the Draft EIS) on the project website: https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/home/bep-replacement-project.