



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICES
1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155



June 28, 2004

Finding of No Significant Impact
Air Force Memorial, Naval Annex Site
Arlington, Virginia

I find that the project described in the *Environmental Assessment, Air Force Memorial, Naval Annex Site*, March 2003, is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, no environmental impact statement will be prepared. This decision is in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA, 42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq.), the implementing regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ, 40 CFR 1500-1508), and DoD Instruction 4715.9, *Environmental Planning and Analysis*.

Congress authorized the proposed action to establish an Air Force Memorial on three acres of the Naval Annex Site to honor the men and women who served in the U.S. Air Force and its predecessors. The main element of the Memorial would be three curving vertical spires, from 200 to 270 feet high, that symbolize Air Force core values, people, and key mission ingredients. Complimentary elements include a parade ground, honor guard sculpture, contemplative outdoor areas, seating, walkways, and parking. The proposed action includes demolition of Wing 8 of the Naval Annex.

The *Environmental Assessment* identified project alternatives, affected environment, environmental consequences, and proposed mitigation measures. It examined potential impacts on socio-economic conditions, cultural and visual resources, transportation systems, physical and biological resources, utilities and infrastructure, and cumulative impact.

Public involvement included presentations and applications to relevant groups and agencies. The Department of Defense (DoD) Washington Headquarters Services (WHS) published a *Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment* in local newspapers on March 31, 2003, and in the *Federal Register* on April 3, 2003. The document was made available by mail, website, and library to interested or affected people and agencies. The 30-day comment period closed May 5, 2003. The *Response to Comments on Environmental Assessment*, June 2004, includes all comments received and how they were addressed. The comments and response address environmental issues and mitigation measures under the following topics: height and lighting of memorial; traffic routes, parking, and access; site preparation and maintenance; memorial and site design; agency reviews; and natural resources.

The *Environmental Assessment* and *Response to Comments on Environmental Assessment* are available at <http://www.dtic.mil/ref/Safety/index.htm> or by contacting the WHS Defense Facilities Directorate (703-697-7241) or the Air Force Memorial Foundation (703-247-5859).

/s/

Ralph E. Newton, Director
Defense Facilities Directorate