



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

1849 C Street, NW – MS 2342-MIB

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240



August 19, 2004

ELECTRONIC MAIL MEMO

To: Director, Fish and Wildlife Service
Director, National Park Service
Director, Geological Survey
Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation

From: Team Leader, Natural Resources Management
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

Subject: Review of Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed Leasing of Lands at Fort Bliss, Texas for the Proposed Siting, Construction, and Operation by the City of El Paso of a Brackish Water Desalination Plant and Support Facility, El Paso County, Texas
(ER 04/0629)(Agency due date: **September 27, 2004**)

The Department of the Army (DOA) has published in the August 13, 2004 Federal Register a notice of availability of the subject draft EIS. You may view this notice at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/a040813c.html. DOA did not provide copies of the draft EIS to this office but you can review the document at: <http://www.bliss.army.mil>

Please have your appropriate field-level office review the document from its particular jurisdiction and/or expertise, and provide its comments to the Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in Albuquerque, New Mexico by September 15, 2004.

The Regional Director, FWS will prepare the Department's comments for signature by the Regional Environmental Officer (REO) in Albuquerque, New Mexico by September 22, 2004.

Please supply all signed, paper comments and comments on disk or by electronic mail to the REO. Related Review: ER 03/0764.

/S/08/19/04

Vijai N. Rai

cc: Assistant Secretaries
Regional Environmental Officer, ALB

OEPC-Staff Contact: Vijai N. Rai, 202-208-6661, vijai_rai@ios.doi.gov

*Hard copy distributed by regular mail