

***Final Draft***  
**Environmental Assessment for Improvements at  
Administrative United States Penitentiary Thomson  
Thomson, Illinois**



*Prepared for:*

**Federal Bureau of Prisons**

*Prepared by:*

Tetra Tech, Inc.  
Fairfax, Virginia

*Under contract to:*

SFS Architecture  
Kansas City, Missouri

Wallace Engineering  
Kansas City, Missouri

**January 2016**

This page intentionally left blank.

**CONTENTS**

1 **SECTION 1.0 PURPOSE, NEED, AND SCOPE.....1-1**

2 1.1 PURPOSE AND NEED ..... 1-1

3 1.2 SCOPE.....1-1

4 1.3 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ..... 1-4

5 1.4 FRAMEWORK FOR DECISION MAKING..... 1-4

6 **SECTION 2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND**

7 **ALTERNATIVES .....2-1**

8 2.1 PROPOSED ACTION.....2-1

9 2.1.1 ARMORY BUILDING.....2-1

10 2.1.2 PARKING LOT EXPANSION AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS.....2-1

11 2.1.3 BUS GARAGE SERVICE BUILDING .....2-2

12 2.1.4 ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT ENCLOSURE .....2-2

13 2.1.5 FIRING RANGE AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAM

14 COURSE .....2-2

15 2.1.6 STAFF TRAINING CENTER.....2-2

16 2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE.....2-2

17 2.3 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER

18 CONSIDERATION OR DETAILED STUDY .....2-3

19 2.3.1 ARMORY BUILDING ALTERNATIVES.....2-3

20 2.3.2 SITE IMPROVEMENT ALTERNATIVES.....2-3

21 2.3.3 BUS SERVICE GARAGE BUILDING ALTERNATIVES .....2-3

22 2.3.4 ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT ENCLOSURE ALTERNATIVES.....2-3

23 2.3.5 FIRING RANGE AND SORT COURSE ALTERNATIVES .....2-3

24 2.3.6 STAFF TRAINING CENTER ALTERNATIVES.....2-4

25 **SECTION 3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND CONSEQUENCES.....3-1**

26 3.1 LAND USE..... 3-1

27 3.1.1 Affected Environment..... 3-1

28 3.1.2 Environmental Consequences..... 3-1

29 3.2 AIR QUALITY.....3-2

30 3.2.1 Affected Environment..... 3-2

31 3.2.2 Environmental Consequences..... 3-4

32 3.3 NOISE.....3-5

33 3.3.1 Affected Environment..... 3-5

34 3.3.2 Environmental Consequences..... 3-7

35 3.4 SOILS .....3-9

36 3.4.1 Affected Environment..... 3-9

37 3.4.2 Environmental Consequences..... 3-11

38 3.5 WATER RESOURCES .....3-12

39 3.5.1 Affected Environment..... 3-12

40 3.5.2 Environmental Consequences..... 3-14

41 3.6 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES .....3-15

42 3.6.1 Affected Environment..... 3-15

43 3.6.2 Environmental Consequences..... 3-15

44

1	3.7 TRANSPORTATION.....	3-15
2	3.7.1 Affected Environment.....	3-15
3	3.7.2 Environmental Consequences.....	3-16
4	3.8 UTILITIES .....	3-17
5	3.8.1 Affected Environment.....	3-17
6	3.8.2 Environmental Consequences.....	3-18
7	3.9 HAZARDOUS AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES .....	3-19
8	3.9.1 Affected Environment.....	3-19
9	3.9.2 Environmental Consequences.....	3-19
10	3.10 RESOURCE AREAS ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER DETAILED STUDY .....	3-20
11	3.10.1 Aesthetics and Visual Resources.....	3-20
12	3.10.2 Cultural Resources.....	3-20
13	3.10.3 Socioeconomics .....	3-20
14	3.11 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS SUMMARY.....	3-21
15	3.12 MITIGATION SUMMARY.....	3-21
16	<b>SECTION 4.0 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS .....</b>	<b>4-1</b>
17	4.1 FINDINGS.....	4-1
18	4.2 CONCLUSION.....	4-1
19	<b>SECTION 5.0 REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>5-1</b>
20	<b>SECTION 6.0 PERSONS AND AGENCIES CONSULTED.....</b>	<b>6-1</b>
21	<b>SECTION 7.0 LIST OF PREPARERS.....</b>	<b>7-1</b>
22	<b>SECTION 8.0 DISTRIBUTION LIST .....</b>	<b>8-1</b>
23	<b>APPENDICES</b>	
24	Appendix A Agency Coordination Letters.....	A-1
25	Appendix B Air Emissions Calculations.....	B-1
26	Appendix C Construction Debris Calculations .....	C-1
27		
28	<b>FIGURES</b>	
29	Figure 1 General Location Map.....	1-2
30	Figure 2 Proposed Improvements at A USP Thomson.....	1-3
31	Figure 3 Soils.....	3-10
32	Figure 4 Floodplains and Wetlands .....	3-13
33		
34	<b>TABLES</b>	
35	Table 3.2-1. Air Quality Standards and Monitored Data .....	3-3
36	Table 3.2-2. Estimated Air Emissions Compared to <i>De Minimis</i> Thresholds.....	3-4
37	Table 3.3-1. Common Sounds and Their dBA Levels.....	3-6
38	Table 3.3-2. Estimated Background Noise Levels at Nearby Noise-Sensitive Areas .....	3-6
39	Table 3.3-3. Noise Levels Associated with Outdoor Construction .....	3-7
40	Table 3.3-4. Noise Thresholds for Noise-Sensitive Land Uses Near Firing Ranges .....	3-8
41	Table 3.3-5. Distance from Range Not Recommended for Residential Land Use.....	3-8
42	Table 3.4-1. Site Soils.....	3-9

1	Table 3.7-1. Existing AADT and LOS on Nearby Roadways.....	3-16
2	Table 3.8-1. Summary of Construction Debris.....	3-18
3	Table 4.1-1 Summary of Potential Environmental and Socioeconomic Consequences.....	4-1

1

This page intentionally left blank.

## 1 **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

2	AADT	annual average daily traffic
3	AQCR	Air Quality Control Region
4	AUSP	Administrative United States Penitentiary
5	BMPs	best management practices
6	Bureau	[Federal] Bureau of Prisons
7	CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
8	CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
9	CO	carbon monoxide
10	CO <sub>2</sub>	carbon dioxide
11	CUP	central utility plant
12	dB	decibel
13	dBA	A-weighted decibel
14	dBp	peak level decibel
15	DNL	Day-Night Sound Level
16	EA	environmental assessment
17	EO	executive order
18	EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
19	°F	degrees Fahrenheit
20	GHG	greenhouse gases
21	IAC	Illinois Administrative Code
22	IEPA	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
23	L <sub>eq</sub>	Equivalent Sound Level
24	LOS	level of service
25	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	micrograms per cubic meter
26	mgd	million gallons per day
27	NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
28	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
29	NOA	notice of availability
30	NO <sub>x</sub>	oxides of nitrogen
31	NO <sub>2</sub>	nitrogen dioxide
32	NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
33	O <sub>3</sub>	ozone
34	PM <sub>10</sub>	particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter

1	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter
2	ppb	parts per billion
3	ppm	parts per million
4	RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
5	SARNAM2	Small Arms Range Noise Assessment Model
6	SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide
7	SO <sub>x</sub>	oxides of sulfur
8	SORT	Special Operations Response Team
9	SR	state route
10	SWPPP	stormwater pollution prevention plan
11	tpy	tons per year
12	U.S.C.	United States Code
13	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
14	VOC	volatile organic compound

## SECTION 1.0

### PURPOSE, NEED, AND SCOPE

#### 1.1 PURPOSE AND NEED

This environmental assessment (EA) evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the Federal Bureau of Prisons' (Bureau's) improvements at the 140-acre Administrative United States Penitentiary (A USP) Thomson, in the Village of Thomson in Carroll County, Illinois (Figures 1 and 2). Prior to the Bureau's acquisition of the Thomson facility in 2012, it was the Illinois Maximum Security Correctional Center at Thomson, Illinois. The proposed Bureau improvements have been deemed necessary for the new federal mission at A USP Thomson; some of the improvements would need to be completed before maximum-security inmates are housed at the penitentiary. This EA has been prepared to comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (Title 42 of the *United States Code* [U.S.C.], Sections 4321–4347); the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ's) *Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act* (Title 40 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* [CFR], Parts 1500–1508); and 28 CFR Part 61, Appendix A, *Bureau of Prisons Procedures Relating to the Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act*.

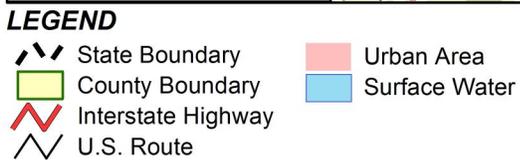
In 2010, the Bureau prepared the *Environmental Assessment for the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Acquisition and Activation of Thomson Correctional Center as Administrative United States Penitentiary Thomson* (BOP 2010). The 2010 EA evaluated the potential environmental impacts of the Bureau's acquisition of the Thomson facility from the State of Illinois to address an acute shortage of male high-security, maximum-custody bed space for federal inmates. The Bureau site improvements described in this EA were not part of the action evaluated in the 2010 EA; this EA analyzes the site improvements to comply with NEPA and with the CEQ's and the Bureau's NEPA implementing regulations.

The Illinois Department of Corrections built the penitentiary in 2001. BOP acquired it in October 2012. A USP Thomson's principal facilities consist of eight maximum-security housing units (with a housing capacity of 3,200 inmates), a minimum-security housing unit (with a housing capacity of 200 inmates), an administration building, a prisoner programs building, a prisoner support building, and a warehouse. Up to 1,100 staff will be employed at A USP Thomson.

#### 1.2 SCOPE

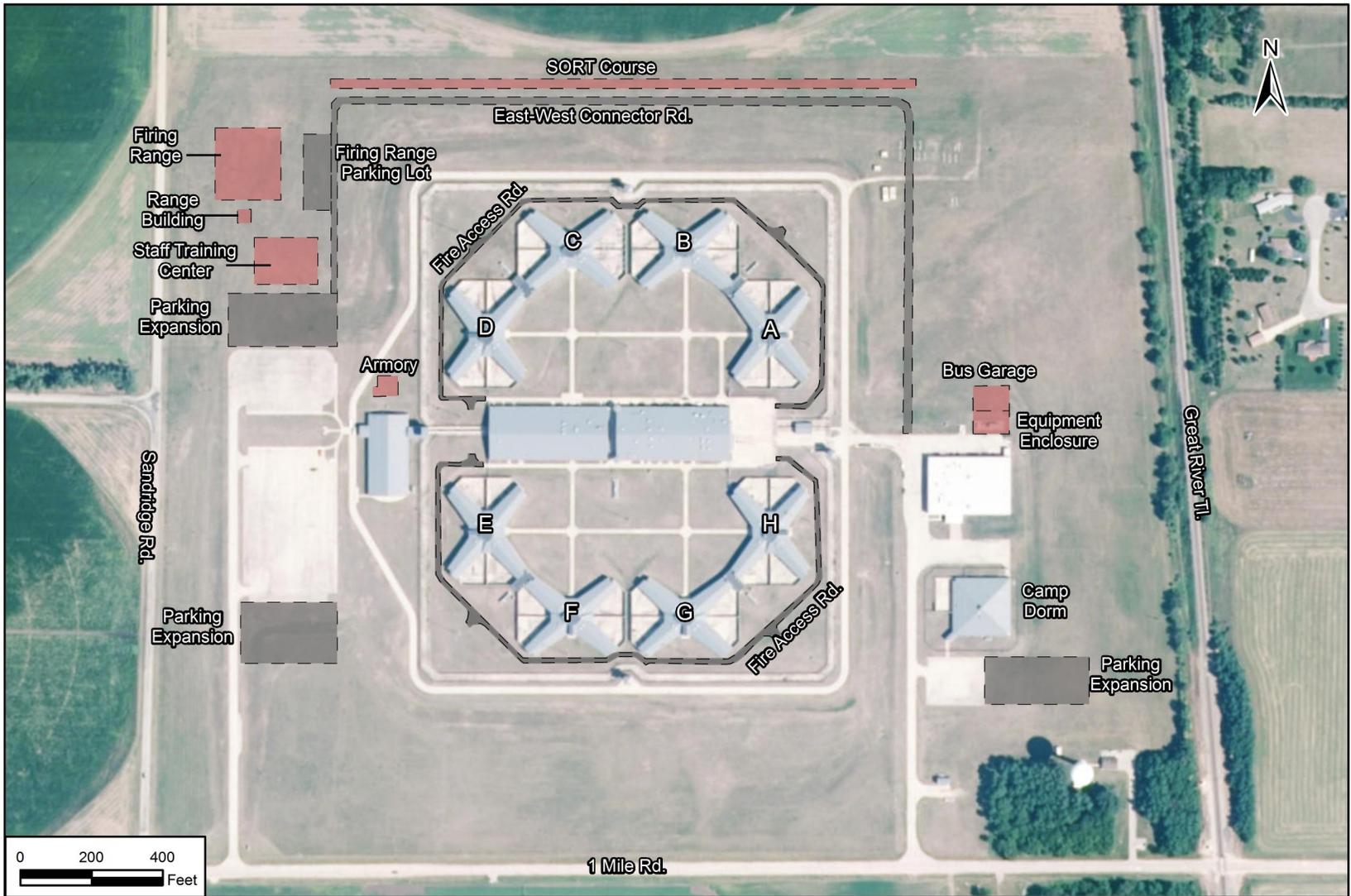
This EA identifies, documents, and evaluates the environmental effects of the Bureau's proposed facility improvements at A USP Thomson. Its purpose is to inform decision makers and the public of the likely environmental consequences of the proposed action and alternatives. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency have been contacted concerning the proposed action (see Appendix A). If either agency raises concerns about the resources under its jurisdiction, a discussion of those issues will be added to this EA.

An interdisciplinary team of environmental scientists and engineers analyzed the proposed action and alternatives in light of existing conditions and identified relevant beneficial and adverse effects associated with the action. The Bureau's proposed action and a no action alternative are described in section 2.0. Conditions existing as of November 2015—considered the “baseline” conditions—are described in section 3.0, Affected Environment and Consequences. The expected effects of the proposed action, also described in section 3.0, are presented immediately after the description of baseline conditions for each environmental resource addressed in detail in this document. Section 3.0 also addresses the potential for cumulative effects, and mitigation measures are identified where appropriate.



**General Location Map**

**Figure 1**



**LEGEND**

- Proposed New Construction
- Proposed New Paving

Source: ESRI 2014. Note: Not to scale. Locations are approximate.

## Proposed Improvements at AUSP Thomson

**Figure 2**

1 Section 2.1 describes the proposed action. Section 3.0 of the EA provides analyses of potential  
2 impacts on air quality, noise, soils, water resources, biological resources, transportation, utilities,  
3 and hazardous materials and wastes. Because of the limited potential for impacts to land use,  
4 aesthetics and visual resources, cultural resources, and socioeconomics identified during project  
5 scoping, the EA does not evaluate in detail impacts to those resources (see section 3.10).

### 6 **1.3 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

7 Under regulations issued by the CEQ,<sup>1</sup> the evaluation of potential environmental effects of federal  
8 actions is open to public participation. Public participation in the NEPA process promotes both  
9 open communication between the public and the Bureau and better decision making. All people  
10 and organizations with a potential interest in the proposed action are urged to participate in the  
11 NEPA environmental analysis process.

12 Public participation opportunities with respect to the proposed action and this EA are guided by  
13 Bureau regulations. The Bureau will make the EA available for 30 days for public comment,  
14 beginning with publication of a notice of availability (NOA) in *The Carroll County Review*  
15 newspaper. During this review period, the Bureau will consider comments on the EA submitted  
16 by agencies, organizations, and members of the public. At the conclusion of the review period,  
17 the Bureau will, if appropriate, execute a Finding of No Significant Impact and proceed with the  
18 proposed action.<sup>2</sup>

### 19 **1.4 FRAMEWORK FOR DECISION MAKING**

20 A decision on whether to proceed with the proposed action rests on numerous factors, such as the  
21 Bureau's mission requirements and schedule, the availability of funding, and environmental  
22 considerations. In addressing environmental considerations, the Bureau is guided by several  
23 relevant statutes (and their implementing regulations) and executive orders (EOs) that establish  
24 standards and provide guidance on environmental and natural resources management and  
25 planning. Relevant statutes include the Clean Air Act (CAA), Clean Water Act (CWA), Noise  
26 Control Act, Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, Archaeological  
27 Resources Protection Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Energy Policy Act,  
28 Energy Independence and Security Act, and Toxic Substances Control Act. EOs bearing on the  
29 proposed action include EO 11988 (*Floodplain Management*); EO 11990 (*Protection of*  
30 *Wetlands*); EO 12088 (*Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards*); EO 12580  
31 (*Superfund Implementation*); EO 12898 (*Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in*  
32 *Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*); EO 13045 (*Protection of Children from*  
33 *Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*); EO 13175 (*Consultation and Coordination with*  
34 *Indian Tribal Governments*); EO 13186 (*Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect*  
35 *Migratory Birds*); EO 13423 (*Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation*  
36 *Management*); and EO 13514 (*Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic*  
37 *Performance*). This EA refers to these authorities when they are relevant to specific  
38 environmental resources and conditions.

---

<sup>1</sup> Council on Environmental Quality, *Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act*, 40 CFR Parts 1500–1508.

<sup>2</sup> If it is determined that implementing the proposed action would result in significant impacts, the Bureau would (a) publish in the *Federal Register* a notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement, (b) determine and commit to mitigation actions sufficient to reduce impacts below significance thresholds, or (c) not take the action.

**SECTION 2.0****DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES****2.1 PROPOSED ACTION**

The proposed action is to implement facility improvements at A USP Thomson that the Bureau has deemed necessary for the federal mission at the penitentiary. Elements of the proposed action include an armory, parking lot expansion and improvements, fire access road improvements, stormwater retention drainage improvements, a bus garage service building, an electrical equipment enclosure for the central powerhouse, a staff training course, and a staff training center. Each of these site elements is described individually in this section as well as evaluated in relation to the entire A USP Thomson site. All of the proposed facility improvements would be on A USP Thomson property. The proposed improvements would be outside the secure area perimeter fence, except for the fire access road improvements which would be inside the secure area fence. Construction of these facility improvements would begin in FY 16 and are scheduled to be completed by FY 18. A potential configuration of the improvements is shown in Figure 2.

**2.1.1 Armory Building**

The Bureau's armory functions are typically located within an institution's main administration building. A Bureau armory is a secured area located outside the secure perimeter for specialized equipment used by correctional staff in an emergency situation. Unfortunately, the existing A USP Thomson administration building has insufficient space to support the Bureau's standard armory operations. Therefore, an armory building is proposed near the existing administration building.

**2.1.2 Parking Lot Expansion and Site Improvements****2.1.2.1 Site Improvements Outside the Secure Perimeter**

It is proposed that the existing main parking lots on the west side of A USP Thomson would be expanded from approximately 450 spaces to approximately 700 spaces for staff and visitors, and the existing parking lot at the east side of A USP Thomson (near the Camp Dorm) would be expanded from approximately 50 spaces to approximately 100 spaces for staff and visitors. The expanded parking lots would require lighting, pedestrian walks, and other miscellaneous elements to incorporate the new parking with the existing site. In addition, new roadways, parking, and related ancillary site improvement items would be required to access the other proposed buildings described herein, and to connect the east and west sides of the property.

**2.1.2.2 Site Improvements Inside the Secure Perimeter**

Access roads are proposed within the existing secure perimeter of the institution, for emergency and maintenance vehicle access between the housing units and the perimeter fence. Infrastructure components would be relocated as required and additional gates within the secure perimeter may be provided for vehicle access. Additional site lighting is not anticipated inside the secure perimeter because of the existing high mast lights.

**2.1.2.3 Site Stormwater Retention and Drainage**

The proposed new facilities, parking lots, and roads would increase the impervious surface area and alter the existing site drainage on the A USP Thomson property. The existing storm drainage infiltration basins on the property would be altered to accommodate all site additions and improvements.

### 2.1.3 *Bus Garage Service Building*

Bureau institutions typically have a garage/landscape shop building outside the secure perimeter of the institution. A USP Thomson has an existing service garage in the warehouse building, but it is insufficient for the Bureau's regular bus operations. Therefore, a bus garage service building is proposed near the existing warehouse building.

### 2.1.4 *Electrical Equipment Enclosure*

Bureau institutions typically have a Central Utility Plant (CUP) building outside the secure perimeter of the institution. The CUP normally consolidates all facility wide services such as boilers, switchgear, and generators into one building for monitoring and maintenance. A USP Thomson does not have a CUP building, and the institution's switchgear and generator are located outside in a fenced area, near the existing warehouse building. Therefore, an electrical equipment enclosure is proposed to protect maintenance staff and the equipment from the weather. A second generator would also be added as a redundant power source within the electrical enclosure.

### 2.1.5 *Firing Range and Special Operations Response Team Course*

The correctional staff at Bureau institutions is required to maintain a specific level of readiness, and weapons training and physical training are important components of this. Therefore, a firing range and Special Operations Response Team (SORT) course have been proposed for the A USP Thomson site, outside the secure perimeter of the institution. The firing range would include a range building and an outdoor range with a covered firing line. The outdoor range would have safety baffles, berms, and backstops, and the range structures would be impenetrable and intended to absorb or restrict bullets so that the bullets would not leave the containment area. A SORT course is a one-quarter mile obstacle course for staff physical training.

The firing range would not be used on a day-to-day basis; intense use would be limited to only a few weeks per year for annual staff training. Aside from annual training, the Bureau's usage of the firing range would not be of the intensity of a commercial range. The Bureau would never use the range for recreational purposes, and use would normally be restricted to Bureau employees. Other federal agencies or local law enforcement organizations may be granted permission on a case-by-case basis to use the range for their weapons training activities.

### 2.1.6 *Staff Training Center*

Bureau institutions typically establish a staff training center to support staff enrichment and other Bureau training goals. A staff training center usually has a multi-purpose space for classroom instruction and gatherings, and also supports physical fitness training with a workout facility and locker rooms. A USP Thomson does not have an existing structure to support a staff training center outside the secure perimeter. Therefore, a staff training center is proposed for the A USP Thomson site.

## 2.2 *NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE*

CEQ regulations require analysis of a no action alternative to provide a benchmark, enabling decision makers to compare the magnitude of the potential environmental effects caused by the proposed action and other alternative actions. The no action alternative is not required to be reasonable, nor does it need to meet the purpose and need of the proposed action.

Under the no action alternative, the Bureau's proposed facility improvements at A USP Thomson would not be implemented. The no action alternative would maintain the status quo; none of the infrastructure improvements (e.g., expanded parking lots, paved fire access roads, stormwater retention and drainage, electrical equipment enclosure) or staff training and facility improvements (e.g., larger armory and bus service garage, staff training center, firing range, SORT course)

1 would be made. AUSP Thomson would continue to operate with its existing facilities and  
2 infrastructure. Operational efficiency would be compromised, hindering the Bureau's ability to  
3 effectively accomplish its mission at the institution. Staff training would be held at other  
4 locations, which would require additional travel time and expense.

## 5 **2.3 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER** 6 **CONSIDERATION OR DETAILED STUDY**

### 7 **2.3.1 Armory Building Alternatives**

8 The Bureau considered whether the armory functions could be incorporated into the existing  
9 administration building via renovations, or accommodated with a building addition. These  
10 considerations were eliminated due to findings of insufficient space within the existing  
11 administration building and findings that a building addition would result in costly site  
12 infrastructure modifications. The proposed armory building was determined to be the viable  
13 alternative to pursue in the EA.

### 14 **2.3.2 Site Improvement Alternatives**

15 There are no viable site improvement alternatives for the Bureau to consider, as the site entrances,  
16 primary traffic circulation, and parking areas are well established. The new site improvements  
17 will be developed as an extension of the existing components, and coordinated among all  
18 proposed Bureau site additions and improvements.

### 19 **2.3.3 Bus Service Garage Building Alternatives**

20 The Bureau considered whether the bus garage functions could be incorporated into the existing  
21 warehouse garage facility, or accommodated with a building addition to the existing warehouse  
22 building. These considerations were eliminated due to findings of insufficient space within the  
23 existing warehouse garage facility, and findings that a building addition would have a negative  
24 impact on warehouse operations and oversight. The proposed bus service garage building was  
25 determined to be the viable alternative to pursue in the EA.

### 26 **2.3.4 Electrical Equipment Enclosure Alternatives**

27 The Bureau considered whether the electrical equipment could be enclosed in a CUP type of  
28 building. This consideration was eliminated because the existing utility systems are distributed  
29 throughout the existing institution, with the exception of the primary electrical distribution  
30 system. The proposed electrical equipment enclosure was determined to be the viable alternative  
31 to pursue in the EA.

### 32 **2.3.5 Firing Range and SORT Course Alternatives**

33 The Bureau considered whether an indoor firing range would be acceptable. The indoor firing  
34 range was eliminated because the size of a typical Bureau firing range (an outdoor range) would  
35 be cost prohibitive as an indoor facility. Because of property boundary limitations, there are only  
36 two reasonable location options for the proposed firing range: the northwest corner and the  
37 northeast corner. The northwest corner was selected because it is furthest away from the daily  
38 operations at the minimum security camp, institution warehouse, and the rear gate. The range  
39 orientation would preferably "shoot north" for optimal target illumination and least sunlight  
40 interference, reinforced by the Bureau's own criteria for layout and construction of a firing range.  
41 The proposed outdoor firing range at the northwest corner and the nearby SORT course were  
42 determined to be the viable alternative to pursue in the EA.

1 **2.3.6 Staff Training Center Alternatives**

2           There are no viable renovations or building addition alternatives for the Bureau to consider,  
3           because a staff training center must be visually separated from the main institution and the camp.

1 **SECTION 3.0**

2 **AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND CONSEQUENCES**

3 **3.1 LAND USE**

4 **3.1.1 Affected Environment**

5 “Land use” describes the activities that take place in a particular area and generally refers to  
6 human modification of land, often for residential or economic purposes. It is important as a means  
7 to determine if sufficient area is available for the proposed activities and to identify any potential  
8 conflicts with surrounding land uses.

9 A USP Thomson is located in Carroll County, Illinois, which is in the western part of the state and  
10 borders the Mississippi River (Figure 1). The county is a rural area and agriculture is the primary  
11 land use. A USP Thomson lies just west of Illinois State Route (SR) 84, approximately 1 mile  
12 north of the Village of Thomson (with a population of approximately 765) and about one-half mile  
13 east of the Mississippi River. The construction of the penitentiary, completed in November 2001,  
14 resulted in the conversion of 140 acres of agricultural land to institutional land use. Agricultural  
15 land borders A USP Thomson to the north, south, and west. A BNSF Railway freight line borders  
16 the property to the east, with agricultural land and some low-density residential and commercial  
17 land beyond the tracks along SR 84. A potable water tower belonging to the Village of Thomson  
18 sits near the southeast corner of A USP Thomson, and the village’s water treatment facility is  
19 located southwest of the institution. The prison can be seen only from the local roads providing  
20 access to the site and not from the Mississippi River or from the main thoroughfare (SR 84). Light  
21 from its secure area perimeter fence high-mast lighting can be seen at night from the river and the  
22 highway.

23 Land under the jurisdiction of the Village of Thomson borders A USP Thomson to the north, east,  
24 and west. The village zoned the land to the north, to the west, and immediately to the east of the  
25 penitentiary (along the freight rail line) for industry. Bordering the industry zone further to the east  
26 (along SR 84) is land zoned for highway/auto commerce and low-density residential. The land to  
27 the south of A USP Thomson but north of the Village of Thomson is unincorporated and is used  
28 for agriculture (Village of Thomson 2014).

29 **3.1.2 Environmental Consequences**

30 **3.1.2.1 Proposed Action**

31 Long-term, less than significant, adverse effects on surrounding land use would be expected from  
32 noise from the proposed firing range. The proposed range would be constructed with physical  
33 buffers (e.g., earthen berms or barrier walls) around the range to prevent the range fan from going  
34 off the Bureau’s property and creating a safety conflict with the bordering land use. The range  
35 would be designed in accordance with the Bureau’s *Design Program Guidelines* to be large  
36 enough to accommodate the appropriate safety fan to contain all projectiles and ricochets. Noise  
37 from the firing range, however, would be heard in the surrounding area. See section 3.3 (*Noise*) for  
38 a discussion of noise effects.

1 Other proposed action improvements include buildings (e.g., staff training center, bus garage,  
 2 armory, electrical equipment enclosure) that would be similar in style and use to the existing  
 3 support buildings, utility improvements (stormwater), and facility functional improvements (i.e.,  
 4 parking lots, roads, lighting). These improvements would not conflict with surrounding land use.  
 5 Light from the institution's secure area perimeter fence high-mast lighting already can be seen at  
 6 night from Illinois SR 84 and the Mississippi River, and the proposed action would not change this  
 7 condition. The SORT course would be an obstacle course for staff training and would not conflict  
 8 with surrounding agricultural land use.

### 9 **3.1.2.2 No Action Alternative**

10 No effects on land use would be expected under the no action alternative.

## 11 **3.2 AIR QUALITY**

### 12 **3.2.1 Affected Environment**

13 The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Region 5 office and the Illinois  
 14 Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) are responsible for regulating air quality in Illinois. The  
 15 CAA, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q), assigns EPA the responsibility for establishing the  
 16 primary and secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) (40 CFR Part 50). The  
 17 NAAQS specify acceptable concentration levels of six criteria pollutants: particulate matter  
 18 (measured as both particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter [ $PM_{10}$ ] and particulate matter  
 19 less than 2.5 microns in diameter [ $PM_{2.5}$ ]), sulfur dioxide ( $SO_2$ ), carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of  
 20 nitrogen ( $NO_x$ ), ozone ( $O_3$ ), and lead. Short-term NAAQS (for 1-, 8-, and 24-hour periods) have  
 21 been established for pollutants contributing to acute health effects, while long-term NAAQS  
 22 (annual averages) have been established for pollutants contributing to chronic health effects. While  
 23 each state has the authority to adopt standards stricter than those established under the federal  
 24 program, the State of Illinois has adopted the federal standards.

25 Federal regulations designate Air Quality Control Regions (AQCRs) in violation of the NAAQS as  
 26 *nonattainment* areas and AQCRs with levels below the NAAQS as *attainment* areas. EPA  
 27 monitors levels of criteria pollutants at representative sites in each region throughout Illinois.  
 28 Carroll County (and, therefore, all areas associated with the proposed action) is within the  
 29 Metropolitan Quad Cities Interstate AQCR (40 CFR 81.102) and has been designated by EPA as  
 30 an attainment area for all criteria pollutants (USEPA 2015a). Table 3.2-1 shows the concentrations  
 31 of criteria pollutants at the monitoring locations closest to AUSP Thomson (USEPA 2015b).

32 **Greenhouse Gases and Climate Change.** Thomson, Illinois's average high temperature is 81.6  
 33 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) in the hottest month of July, and the average low temperature is 10.9 °F in  
 34 the coldest month of January. Thomson has average annual precipitation of 34.5 inches per year.  
 35 The wettest month of the year is August with an average rainfall of 4.5 inches (Idcide 2015).

36 Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are components of the atmosphere that trap heat relatively near the  
 37 surface of the Earth and, therefore, contribute to the greenhouse effect and climate change. Most  
 38 GHGs occur naturally in the atmosphere, but increases in their concentration result from human  
 39 activities such as burning of fossil fuels. Global temperatures are expected to continue to rise as  
 40 human activities continue to add carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ), methane, nitrous oxide, and other

1 greenhouse (or heat-trapping) gases to the atmosphere. Whether rainfall will increase or decrease  
2 remains difficult to project for specific regions (IPCC 2007; USEPA 2015c).

3 EO 13693 (*Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade*) outlines policies intended to  
4 ensure that federal agencies evaluate climate-change risks and vulnerabilities, and to manage the  
5 short- and long-term effects of climate change on their operations and mission. The EO  
6 specifically requires agencies within the federal government to measure, report, and reduce their  
7 GHG emissions from both their direct and indirect activities. The Bureau is pursuing energy  
8 conservation and greening projects covering a wide range of conservation measures, including  
9 water conservation; lighting, metering, heating ventilation, and air conditioning upgrades; and  
10 renewable energy (DOJ 2013). In addition, the CEQ recently released draft guidance on when and  
11 how federal agencies should consider GHG emissions and climate change in NEPA analyses. The  
12 draft guidance includes a presumptive effects threshold of 27,563 tons per year (tpy) (25,000  
13 metric tpy) of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent emissions from a federal action (CEQ 2014).

**Table 3.2-1.  
Air Quality Standards and Monitored Data**

Pollutant	Air Quality Standard		Monitored Concentrations		
	Level	Averaging Period	2012	2013	2014
<b>CO</b>					
1-hour (ppm)	35	Not to be exceeded more than once per year	1.8	1.1	1.3
8-hour (ppm)	9		1.1	0.6	0.8
<b>Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)</b>					
1-hour (ppb)	100	98th percentile of 1-hour daily maximum concentrations, averaged over 3 years	No Data	64	67
<b>O<sub>3</sub></b>					
8-hour (ppm)	0.070	3-year average of the fourth highest daily maximum	0.075	0.065	0.07
<b>SO<sub>2</sub></b>					
1-hour (ppm)	75	98th percentile, averaged over 3 years	No Data	73	53
3-hour (ppb)	0.5	Not to be exceeded more than once per year	22	17	11
<b>PM<sub>2.5</sub></b>					
24-hour (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	35	98th percentile, averaged over 3 years	No Data	No Data	21
Annual mean (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	12	Averaged over 3 years	No Data	No Data	10
<b>PM<sub>10</sub></b>					
24-hour (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	150	Not to be exceeded more than once per year over 3 years	93	101	93

Source: 40 CFR 50.1-50.12, USEPA 2015b.

Notes: ppm = parts per million; ppb = parts per billion; µg/m<sup>3</sup> = micrograms per cubic meter

**3.2.2 Environmental Consequences**

**3.2.2.1 Proposed Action**

Short- and long-term minor adverse effects on air quality would be expected from the proposed action being implemented. Short-term effects would be caused by airborne dust and other pollutants being generated during construction, and long-term effects would be caused by commuting activities and new stationary sources of pollutants such as heating boilers and possibly emergency generators being introduced. Air quality effects would be minor unless the emissions exceeded the general conformity rule *de minimis* (of minimal importance) threshold values, exceeded the GHG threshold in the draft CEQ guidance, or contributed to a violation of any federal, state, or local air regulation.

**Construction.** Construction emissions were estimated for fugitive dust, on- and off-road diesel equipment and vehicles, worker trips, architectural coatings, and paving off-gases (Table 3.2-2). Although the area is in attainment and the general conformity rules do not apply, the *de minimis* threshold values were carried forward to determine the level of effects under NEPA. The estimated emissions from the proposed action would be below the *de minimis* thresholds; therefore, the level of effects would be minor. Detailed emissions calculations are provided in Appendix B.

**Table 3.2-2.  
Estimated Air Emissions Compared to De Minimis Thresholds**

Activity/Source	CO	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	SO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	De minimis Threshold [tpy]	Exceeds De Minimis Thresholds? [Yes/No]
Construction	2.6	4.3	0.7	0.9	1.3	0.3	100	No
Operations	0.1	0.2	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	100	No

Notes: *de minimis* = of minimal importance, SO<sub>x</sub> = oxides of sulfur, VOC = volatile organic compound.

For purposes of this analysis, it was assumed that all construction activities would be compressed into one 12-month period. Therefore, regardless of the ultimate implementation schedule, annual emissions would be less than those specified herein. Small changes in facility siting and ultimate design, and moderate changes in quantity and types of equipment used would not substantially alter these emission estimates and would not change the determination under the general conformity rule or level of effects under NEPA.

**Operations.** Operational emissions are primarily derived from heating of the buildings. Any new stationary sources of air emissions could be subject to federal and state air permitting regulations and would be added to the facility’s air permit. Both a new source construction permit and a modification to the existing permit could be required. In addition, the Illinois Administrative Code (IAC) outlines requirements with which the developer must comply when constructing new facilities, such as controlling fugitive dust and open burning. All people responsible for any operation, process, handling, transportation, or storage facility that could result in fugitive dust would take reasonable precautions to prevent any dust from becoming airborne. Reasonable precautions might include using water to control dust from land clearing, road grading, or building construction. In addition, construction would proceed in full compliance with current IEPA requirements, with compliant practices or products. These requirements include the following:

- 1 • Visible and particulate matter emissions (IAC 35-1-212)
- 2 • Organic material emissions standards and limitations (IAC 35-1-218)
- 3 • Nitrogen oxides emissions (IAC 35-1-217)
- 4 • Open burning (IAC 35-1-237)

5 This listing is not all-inclusive; the Bureau and any contractors would comply with all applicable  
6 air pollution control regulations.

7 **Greenhouse Gases and Climate Change.** All construction activities combined would generate  
8 approximately 393 tons (357 metric tons) of CO<sub>2</sub>, which would be below the CEQ threshold. All  
9 operational activities combined would generate approximately 148 tons (135 metric tons) of CO<sub>2</sub>,  
10 which would be below the CEQ threshold. These effects would be minor.

### 11 **3.2.2.2 No Action Alternative**

12 No effects on air quality would be expected under the no action alternative.

## 13 **3.3 NOISE**

### 14 **3.3.1 Affected Environment**

15 “Sound” is a physical phenomenon consisting of vibrations that travel through a medium, such as  
16 air, and are sensed by the human ear. “Noise” is defined as any sound that is undesirable because it  
17 interferes with communication, is intense enough to damage hearing, or is otherwise intrusive.  
18 Human response to noise varies depending on the type and characteristics of the noise distance  
19 between the noise source and the receptor, receptor sensitivity, and time of day. Noise is often  
20 generated by activities (such as construction or vehicular traffic) essential to a community’s quality  
21 of life.

22 Sound varies by both intensity and frequency. Sound pressure level, described in decibels (dB), is  
23 used to quantify sound intensity. The dB is a logarithmic unit that expresses the ratio of a sound  
24 pressure level to a standard reference level. Hertz are units used to quantify sound frequency. The  
25 human ear responds differently to different frequencies. “A-weighting,” measured in A-weighted  
26 decibels (dBA), approximates a frequency response expressing the perception of sound by humans.  
27 Sounds encountered in daily life and their dBA levels are provided in Table 3.3-1.

28 The dBA noise metric describes steady noise levels, although very few noises are, in fact, constant.  
29 Therefore, A-weighted Day-night Sound Level has been developed. Day-night Sound Level (DNL)  
30 is defined as the average sound energy in a 24-hour period with a 10-dB penalty added to the  
31 nighttime levels (10 p.m. to 7 a.m.). DNL is a useful descriptor for noise because: (1) it averages  
32 ongoing yet intermittent noise, and (2) it measures total sound energy over a 24-hour period. In  
33 addition, Equivalent Sound Level ( $L_{eq}$ ) is often used to describe the overall noise environment.  $L_{eq}$   
34 is the average sound level in dB.

**Table 3.3-1.  
Common Sounds and Their dBA Levels**

Outdoor	Sound Level (dBA)	Indoor
Motorcycle	100	Subway train
Tractor	90	Garbage disposal
Noisy restaurant	85	Blender
Downtown (large city)	80	Ringling telephone
Freeway traffic	70	TV audio
Normal conversation	60	Sewing machine
Rainfall	50	Refrigerator
Quiet residential area	40	Library

Source: Harris 1998.

1 The Noise Control Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-574) directs federal agencies to comply with  
 2 applicable federal, state, and local noise control regulations. Illinois’s Environmental Protection  
 3 Act of 1985 limits noise to levels that protect health, general welfare, and property. Illinois has a  
 4 comprehensive noise regulation that limits impulsive noise at the property line to a maximum of  
 5 47 dBA during daytime hours and 37 dBA during nighttime hours. It considers both residences  
 6 and correctional intuitions “Class A” noise-sensitive land uses. This threshold is highly restrictive  
 7 if applied at the property boundary—and likely impossible to meet if applied at the detention areas  
 8 within the facility. Carroll County maintains a general nuisance noise ordinance, which does not  
 9 specify explicit not-to-exceed levels.

10 Individuals could be subjected to multiple sources of noise, including automobile traffic, high-  
 11 altitude aircraft overflights, trains, lawn maintenance, and natural noises such as vegetation  
 12 blowing in the wind and bird vocalizations. Existing noise levels ( $L_{eq}$  and DNL) were estimated  
 13 for the surrounding areas using the techniques specified in the American National Standards  
 14 Institute’s *Quantities and Procedures for Description and Measurement of Environmental Sound*  
 15 *Part 3: Short-term measurements with an observer present* (ANSI 2013). The proposed site land  
 16 use category is rural having an estimated background noise level of 40 dBA during daytime hours.  
 17 Table 3.3-2 lists the residences located the closest to the facility, which are 598 feet. There are no  
 18 churches, hospitals, or schools within five miles. An active rail spur is located less than 200 feet  
 19 from the facility and adjacent to nearby residences.

**Table 3.3-2.  
Estimated Background Noise Levels at Nearby Noise-Sensitive Areas**

Closest Noise-Sensitive Area				Estimated Existing Sound Levels (dBA)		
Distance (feet)	Direction	Type	Land Use Category	DNL	$L_{eq}$ (daytime)	$L_{eq}$ (nighttime)
598	South	Residential	Rural	40	38	32
716	East					
821	East					

Source: ANSI 2013.

## 1 3.3.2 Environmental Consequences

### 2 3.3.2.1 Proposed Action

3 Short-term minor and long-term adverse effects would be expected. Short-term increases in noise  
4 would be due to construction activities. The proposed action would have the potential for  
5 appreciable long-term adverse effects due to increases in noise from the proposed firing range;  
6 therefore, mitigation would be implemented to ensure effects remain at less-than-significant levels.

7 **Construction.** Table 3.3-3 presents typical noise levels (dBA at 50 feet) that the EPA has  
8 estimated for the main phases of outdoor construction. Individual pieces of construction equipment  
9 typically generate noise levels of 80–90 dBA at a distance of 50 feet. With multiple items of  
10 equipment operating concurrently, noise levels can be relatively high during daytime periods at  
11 locations within several hundred feet of active construction sites. The zone of relatively high  
12 construction noise typically extends to distances of 400–800 feet from the site of major equipment  
13 operations.

14 **Table 3.3-3.**  
15 **Noise Levels Associated with Outdoor Construction**

Construction Phase	$L_{eq}$ (dBA)
Ground clearing	84
Excavation, grading	89
Foundations	78
Structural	85
Finishing	89

Source: USEPA 1971.

16 Two residences are located within 800 feet of the facility that might be intermittently exposed to  
17 appreciable levels of construction noise. Given the temporary nature of proposed construction and  
18 the limited amount of noise that heavy equipment would generate, the effects would be minor.  
19 Although construction-related noise effects would be minor, the following best management  
20 practices (BMPs) would be implemented to further reduce any realized noise effects:

- 21 • Construction would primarily occur during normal weekday business hours; and
- 22 • Construction equipment mufflers would be properly maintained and in good working  
23 order.

24 Construction noise would dominate the soundscape for all on-site personnel. Construction  
25 personnel, and particularly equipment operators, would wear adequate personal hearing protection  
26 to limit exposure and ensure compliance with federal health and safety regulations.

27 **Operations.** The proposed action would increase levels of noise within the immediate area  
28 through the use of small arms weaponry at the proposed firing range. Based on the best available  
29 information and without mitigation, increases in noise from the proposed range would have the  
30 potential for appreciable long-term adverse effects on areas surrounding AUSB Thomson;  
31 therefore, mitigation would be implemented to ensure effects remain at less-than-significant levels.

The metric used in defining the land use planning for small arms ranges is “peak level” (dBP). Peak level is the maximum instantaneous level that can occur during an acoustic event. In the case of small arms weapons, it is the maximum instantaneous noise level made by a specific weapon, at a specific distance. Peak level for small arms weapons is strongly correlated with community annoyance (Hede 1982). Table 3.3-4 outlines noise limits and zones for land use planning for small arms ranges.

**Table 3.3-4.  
Noise Thresholds for Noise-Sensitive Land Uses Near Firing Ranges**

General Level of Noise	Small-arms	Recommended Uses
Low	< 87 dBP	Noise-sensitive land uses acceptable
Moderate	87–104 dBP	Noise-sensitive land uses normally not recommended
High	> 104 dBP	Noise-sensitive land uses not recommended

Source: Hede 1982.

The Small Arms Range Noise Assessment Model (SARNAM2) was used to predict the noise conditions associated with the proposed firing range. SARNAM2 accounts for spectrum and directivity of both muzzle blast and projectile bow shock, which facilitates accurate calculation of propagation and of sound attenuation by barriers. Community response and land use compatibility was subsequently estimated from the noise predictions. Because the range would be surrounded by berms or walls on three sides, the noise would be projected back to areas behind the firing line. Table 3.3-5 outlines the distance normally not recommended for residential land use for different firing directions. Depending on the ultimate location of the range on AUSP Thomson property and firing direction at the range, as many as 110 existing residences would be exposed to levels of noise not normally recommended for residential land use.

**Table 3.3-5.  
Distance from Range Not Recommended for Residential Land Use**

Direction of Fire	Distance Normally Not Recommended for Residential Land Use (>87 dBP) [meters]				Approximate Number of Residences Affected
	North	South	East	West	
North	425	1,230	925	925	110
South	1,230	425	925	925	40
East	925	925	425	1,230	5
West	925	925	1,230	425	50

DNL is a time-weighted average sound energy over a 24-hour period; a 10-dB penalty is added to the nighttime levels (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.). A DNL of 65 dBA is considered compatible with residential land uses. These characteristics make it a useful descriptor for continuous noise, such as a busy highway, aircraft noise, or small arms range noise. Community annoyance due to small arms ranges is typically assessed using the peak sound level. This approach can be misleading because it does not assess community noise effects due to relatively infrequent, yet loud, impulsive noise events. For example, for a small arms range with limited use, peak sound levels can exceed 87 dB in areas where annual DNL values indicate that noise levels are compatible for residential land use. As outlined in Section 2.1.5, the firing range would not be used on a day-to-day basis, but would be limited to only a few weeks of intense use per year for staff training. The range

would be typically restricted to Bureau employees, and not used for recreational purposes. Restricting the hours of operation to between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. would ensure the sound levels remained less than 65 dBA DNL in nearby areas. This level would be compatible for residential land use.

To ensure effects remain at less-than-significant levels, the Bureau would:

- Perform a preconstruction detailed acoustical modeling effort and incorporate noise reduction measures (i.e., walls, barriers, berms, firing orientation), as necessary, into the design of the range. This effort should focus on the existing and future residential land use surrounding the facility.
- Restrict the hours of operation to between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
- Comply with all applicable federal, state, and local noise regulations.

**3.3.2.2 No Action Alternative**

No effects on the noise environment would be expected under the no action alternative.

**3.4 SOILS**

**3.4.1 Affected Environment**

The AUSP Thomson site soils are of the Ade, Dickinson, and Sparta types (see Table 3.4-1 and Figure 3). Excessively drained Sparta and somewhat excessively drained Ade soils cover most of the project area. All site soils are more than 80 inches deep, have low runoff, and have no incidence of flooding or ponding. They are also all classified as Hydrologic Group A soils, meaning the soils consist mainly of deep, well-drained to excessively drained sands or gravelly sands having a high infiltration rate (and therefore a low runoff potential) when the soils are thoroughly wet.

**Table 3.4-1.  
Site Soils**

Soil Type Abbreviation	Soil Type	Hydrologic Group <sup>a</sup>	Soil Reaction (pH Range) <sup>b</sup>	Corrosion of Concrete	Corrosion of Uncoated Steel	Soil Erosion (K Factor, Whole Soil) <sup>c</sup>
vqcr	87A–Dickinson sandy loam, 0–2% slopes	A	5.1 to 7.3	Moderate	Low	0.28 (very low)
vqcx	88A–Sparta loamy sand, 0–2% slopes	A	5.1 to 7.3	Moderate	High	0.20 (very low)
vqcy	88B–Sparta loamy sand, 1–6% slopes	A	5.1 to 7.3	Moderate	High	0.10 (very low)
vqd6	98A–Ade loamy fine sand, 0–2% slopes	A	5.1 to 6.5	Moderate	High	0.17 (very low)

Source: USDA NRCS 2015.

Notes:

a Hydrologic Group A soils have a high infiltration rate (low runoff potential) when thoroughly wet. Such soils consist mainly of deep, well-drained-to-excessively drained sands or gravelly sands.

b “Soil reaction” is a measure of acidity or alkalinity for the upper and lower boundaries of each layer. Ideal soil pH for shooting ranges is 6.5 to 8.5 (USEPA 2005).

c Erosion factor K indicates the susceptibility of a soil to sheet and rill erosion by water. Factor K is one of six factors used to predict the average annual rate of soil loss in tpy. Values of K range from 0.002 to 0.69. The other factors being equal, the higher the value, the more susceptible the soil is to sheet and rill erosion by water.



### Soils

**LEGEND**

- 87A - Dickinson sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes
- 88A - Sparta loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes
- 88B - Sparta loamy sand, 1 to 6 percent slopes
- 98A - Ade loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes

**Figure 3**

Source: ESRI 2014; USDA NRCS 2015.

1 Soil acidity is measured as pH on a scale between 1 (most acidic) and 14 (most alkaline, or basic),  
2 where 7 is termed neutral. The pH for various depths of the Dickinson and Sparta soil types ranges  
3 from 5.1 to 7.3. The range for the Ade soil type is 5.1 to 6.5. Each of the soil types are rated  
4 moderate for the corrosion of concrete and the Ade and Sparta are rated high for the corrosion of  
5 steel. The Dickinson soil type is rated low for the corrosion of steel. All of the soils are rated very  
6 low for soil erosion (USDA NRCS 2015).

7 Based on the results of a 2001 geotechnical investigation prepared for a proposed firing range to  
8 be sited on the northwest corner of the AUSA Thomson property, the soils consist of  
9 approximately 18 inches of loose silty fine sand with some organics. Below the surficial fine  
10 sands, test borings showed fine-to-medium very loose-to-medium dense sand with some silt. At  
11 depths of 14–15 feet below ground surface, loose-to-medium dense medium fine sands were  
12 encountered. During the investigation, ground water was encountered between 23 and 26 feet  
13 below ground surface (GSI 2001).

### 14 **3.4.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 15 **3.4.2.1 Proposed Action**

16 Short- and long-term minor adverse effects on soils would be expected from implementing the  
17 proposed action. Short-term minor adverse effects would be expected during construction of the  
18 proposed projects from removal of ground cover, exposure of soil, and increased susceptibility to  
19 wind and water erosion. These effects would be minimized by using appropriate BMPs to control  
20 stormwater runoff, erosion, and sedimentation during and after construction. In addition to  
21 implementing BMPs, a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) and compliance with IEPA  
22 sediment and erosion control regulations would be required for all proposed construction activities.  
23 All exposed soils would be stabilized when construction has been completed.

24 Long-term minor adverse effects would be expected from the operation of the proposed outdoor  
25 firing range because of the potential for lead to contaminate the soil. The effects would be minimized,  
26 however, through proper range design and operational management measures that would protect site  
27 soils, prevent runoff, and prevent infiltration of lead into subsurface soils. While the site soils are  
28 described as being predominantly sandy and acidic, the range design would be protective of the  
29 environment by incorporating an impervious underlayment of clay or other material along the range  
30 course that would prevent particulate lead from leaching into the soil. Sand traps would be used  
31 under and behind the targets to capture bullets and lead fragments. To manage stormwater, a settling  
32 pond and a retention pond also would be constructed. The settling pond would capture stormwater  
33 and allow lead fragments to settle out before discharging water to the retention pond. BMPs that have  
34 been proven to effectively reduce or eliminate lead contamination also would be incorporated into the  
35 range design. EPA's publication *Best Management Practices for Lead at Outdoor Shooting Ranges*  
36 describes BMPs appropriate for use on the range that include monitoring and adjusting soil pH,  
37 controlling runoff to prevent lead migration, physically removing and recycling lead from bullet traps  
38 and the range floor, and record keeping.

#### 39 **3.4.2.2 No Action Alternative**

40 No effects on soils would be expected under the no action alternative.

1 **3.5 WATER RESOURCES**

2 **3.5.1 Affected Environment**

3 **3.5.1.1 Surface Water**

4 No naturally occurring surface water features are located on the AUSP Thomson property. The  
5 Mississippi River is approximately one-half mile west of AUSP Thomson (Figure 4).

6 The facility is located in the Apple-Plum watershed, which is assigned U.S. Geological Survey  
7 Hydrologic Unit Code 07060005. Counties contributing to the Apple-Plum watershed are Carroll,  
8 Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Whiteside in Illinois; Clinton, Dubuque, and Jackson in Iowa; and  
9 Grant and Lafayette in Wisconsin.

10 The portion of the Mississippi River near AUSP Thomson—Segment Identification IL\_M-12—is  
11 listed as impaired for mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls on Illinois’s CWA section 303(d) list  
12 of impaired water bodies; the segment is not meeting its designated use for fish consumption  
13 (IEPA 2014).

14 **3.5.1.2 Groundwater**

15 AUSP Thomson does not use groundwater for any purpose. Groundwater levels on the property  
16 are influenced by fluctuations in the water level of the Mississippi River. The facility is underlain  
17 by a sand and gravel aquifer and does not contain any aquifers or source water protection  
18 management zones regulated by the IEPA. Groundwater in the area is generally obtained from the  
19 sand and gravel aquifer at a depth of 65 feet.

20 **3.5.1.3 Floodplains**

21 AUSP Thomson is mapped to be located in Zone D by the National Flood Insurance Program,  
22 preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map number 17015C, panel 0305C. Zone D is defined  
23 as an area in which flood hazards are undetermined but possible—generally, an area above the  
24 500-year flood level (Figure 4).

25 **3.5.1.4 Wetlands**

26 The USFWS’s National Wetlands Inventory indicates that no wetlands are located on the grounds  
27 of or adjacent to AUSP Thomson (Figure 4).

28 **3.5.1.5 Stormwater**

29 Stormwater at AUSP Thomson is managed on-site. The stormwater management system consists  
30 of catch basins that convey stormwater to three detention ponds on the grounds around the  
31 perimeter of the property on the east, south, and west sides. Stormwater inside the secure area  
32 collects in storm drains and is transferred via underground pipes to the stormwater retention ponds.  
33 The facility grounds have soils that drain rapidly and rarely pond or flood (USDA NRCS 2015).  
34 Also, the depth to the water table in the soils is more than 80 inches. Stormwater tends to infiltrate  
35 the soil rather than run off, except during intense storms.

36



### Floodplains and Wetlands

- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>LEGEND</b>                     | <b>Flood Hazard Zones</b>       |
| <b>NWI Wetland</b>                | <b>Zone Type</b>                |
| Freshwater Emergent Wetland       | 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard   |
| Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland | Regulatory Floodway             |
|                                   | 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard |

Figure 4

Source: FEMA 2015; USFWS NWI 2015.

1 Construction projects that result in a total area of disturbance of 5 acres or more must be covered  
2 under the General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities and be in compliance with  
3 conditions of the IEPA stormwater National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.  
4 Coverage under the permit requires development and submission of an SWPPP to IEPA. The  
5 approved SWPPP provides details on BMPs that will be used to control stormwater runoff from  
6 the construction site.

### 7 **3.5.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 8 **3.5.2.1 Proposed Action**

9 Short- and long-term minor adverse effects on water resources would be expected from  
10 implementing the proposed action. Ground disturbance during construction would result in some  
11 soil loss and erosion during storms. Development and implementation of an SWPPP, as required  
12 under the General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities, would minimize soil loss and  
13 retain the soil on the site. Minor leaks or spills of petroleum, oil, and lubricants from construction  
14 equipment could occur, but implementing BMPs during construction would minimize leaks or  
15 spills. The potential for lead contamination in soil at the proposed outdoor firing range could have  
16 a long-term impact on water quality.

17 Short-term minor adverse effects on water resources would be expected during the construction  
18 phase of the proposed projects. Soil disturbance and exposure would increase the susceptibility of  
19 soils to wind and water erosion, which would affect the water quality of stormwater runoff and  
20 potentially the water quality of the nearby Mississippi River. Water quality would be protected,  
21 however, by using appropriate BMPs for controlling stormwater runoff, erosion, and sedimentation  
22 during and after construction. BMPs would be selected specific to the type of project (road  
23 construction, building construction, parking lot construction, sewer system improvement and  
24 construction). The SWPPP for the projects would specify which BMPs would be used to control  
25 runoff and protect water quality during each phase of construction. The existing stormwater  
26 retention ponds at AUSP Thomson would be redesigned to accommodate the increase in  
27 stormwater from the additional impervious area created. Stormwater retention and drainage would  
28 be incorporated in to the site design and construction for each individual project, as well as for the  
29 overall master plan for AUSP Thomson to properly configure the entire property's stormwater  
30 retention and drainage. The modified retention ponds would be sized in accordance with IEPA  
31 guidelines for stormwater retention. All exposed soils would be stabilized when construction is  
32 completed, so no long-term effects on water quality would be expected.

33 Lead bullets in the sand traps behind targets could pose a long-term threat to water quality. The  
34 range design and operational management would incorporate measures to limit lead leaching, such  
35 as incorporating an impervious underlayment of clay or other material along the range course that  
36 would limit leaching of particulate lead into deeper soils. A settling and retention pond constructed  
37 to manage stormwater on the range would limit lead in stormwater runoff from the range. While  
38 effective for reducing lead leaching, some lead would be expected to leach to groundwater and be  
39 carried from the site in stormwater. The amount, however, would not be expected to cause a  
40 violation of Illinois water quality standards.

#### 41 **3.5.2.2 No Action Alternative**

42 No effects on water resources would be expected under the no action alternative.

---

## 1 **3.6 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

### 2 **3.6.1 Affected Environment**

3 The area within the project boundary consists entirely of mowed grass with some sparsely placed  
4 shrubbery. Much of the facility is fenced, lacks native vegetation, and overall represents extremely  
5 poor quality habitat for wildlife. Native vegetation of the region consisted of extensive prairie  
6 communities intermixed with oak hickory forests (Purdue 2015). Beginning in the 19th century,  
7 the natural vegetation was gradually replaced by agriculture. Agriculture is now the dominant land  
8 use in the region, with corn, soybeans, cattle, sheep, poultry, and hogs being the main products.  
9 Agricultural activities have adversely affected stream chemistry and surface water turbidity.

10 **Threatened and Endangered Species.** The USFWS online system for review of a project area for  
11 potential impacts on federally protected species, including threatened and endangered species and  
12 migratory birds, lists five endangered or threatened species and 21 migratory birds as potentially  
13 occurring in the county (USFWS 2015). The state of Illinois lists hundreds of species of plants,  
14 mammals, birds, reptiles, and invertebrates as threatened or endangered in the state. A USP  
15 Thomson, however, does not provide good foraging, breeding, nesting, or roosting habitat for any  
16 of the species.

### 17 **3.6.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 18 **3.6.2.1 Proposed Action**

19 No adverse effects on biological resources would be expected from implementing the proposed  
20 action. The proposed action would not adversely affect any state or federally listed species,  
21 migratory bird, or the habitat of these species. Because the habitat on A USP Thomson is of such  
22 low biological quality, common species of plants and animals in the area also would not be  
23 adversely affected if the proposed action was implemented.

24 On October 28, 2015, a coordination letter describing the proposed action and requesting  
25 comments was sent to the USFWS regional field office. A copy of the letter is provided in  
26 Appendix A.

#### 27 **3.6.2.2 No Action Alternative**

28 No effects on biological resources would be expected from implementing the no action alternative.

## 29 **3.7 TRANSPORTATION**

### 30 **3.7.1 Affected Environment**

31 Traffic in Thomson, Illinois, is generated primarily by personal operating vehicles. The roadways  
32 are predominantly paved, two-lane asphalt roads. Regional access to Thomson is provided by SR  
33 84 from the north and south, and U.S. Route 30 and SR 64 from the east and west. Interstate 88  
34 travels east to west between Chicago and Davenport, approximately 18 miles south of Thomson.  
35 Travelers would approach and access A USP Thomson most efficiently via SR 84 and 1 Mile  
36 Road. A USP Thomson has direct access to 1 Mile Road (Figure 2).

The average annual daily traffic (AADT) is the average number of vehicles traveling along a roadway each day. “Level of service” (LOS) is a measure of the operational conditions on a roadway or at an intersection. LOSs range from A to F, with A representing the best operating conditions—free flow and little delay—and F representing the worst—congestion and long delays. LOSs A, B, or C are typically considered good operating conditions. Table 3.7-1 outlines the routes near the proposed sites and in the area, their AADT, and their estimated existing LOS. SR 84 can be congested (LOS D) during peak traffic periods.

**Table 3.7-1.  
Existing AADT and LOS on Nearby Roadways**

Roadway	AADT (volume per day)	One-Way Peak Hour Volume (volume per hour)	Volume to Capacity Ratio	Estimated Existing LOS
Interstate 88	12,200	294	0.17	B
SR 84	5,450	977	0.57	D
SR 64/U.S. Route 30	9,050	27	0.02	A
1 Mile Road	250	0	0.00	A

Source: IDOT 2015, ITE 2003.

**Air, Rail, and Public Transportation.** The airport closest to AUSP Thomson is Tri-Township Airport, which is 6 miles away and has 132 operations per day. The closest international airport is Quad City International Airport, which is 25 miles away in Moline, Illinois and has 94 operations per day (AirNav 2015). Other nearby airports include Clinton Municipal in Clinton, Iowa. The closest Amtrak station is 57 miles away in Moline (Amtrak 2015). Public transportation is provided by Carroll County Transit, which operates a curb-to-curb service for all county residents Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fees are assessed by age, and reservations must be made 1 day in advance or additional fees are incurred (CCT 2015). AUSP Thomson is one-half mile east of the Mississippi River and is directly adjacent to an active north-south rail spur.

### 3.7.2 Environmental Consequences

#### 3.7.2.1 Proposed Action

Short-term minor adverse and long-term minor beneficial effects would be expected. Short-term effects would be caused by additional vehicles and day-labor traffic during construction. Long-term effects would be the result of upgrades to the in-house transportation infrastructure. The proposed action would have no appreciable effect on air, rail, or public transportation.

**Construction.** Construction activities would have short-term minor adverse effects on transportation and traffic. The effects would be primarily caused by worker commutes and delivery of equipment and materials to and from the new facilities. Access to AUSP Thomson would be limited to the two existing vehicle entry control points on 1 Mile Road, which would result in effects that are more noticeable on streets near the site than on any of the regional roadways. In addition, road closures or detours to accommodate utility system work might occur. These effects would be temporary and would end with the construction phase. The existing transportation infrastructure would be sufficient to support the increase in vehicle traffic. Although the effects would be minor, contractors would route and schedule construction vehicles to minimize conflicts with other traffic, and strategically position staging areas to minimize traffic effects. All

1 construction vehicles would be equipped with backing alarms, two-way radios, and Slow Moving  
2 Vehicle signs when appropriate.

3 **Operations.** Long-term beneficial effects would be the result of expanding the existing east and  
4 west side parking lots, paving a new road outside the secure area to connect the east and west sides  
5 of AUSP Thomson, and constructing the fire access roads within the secure perimeter. These  
6 upgrades to the in-house transportation infrastructure would have minor beneficial effects.

### 7 **3.7.2.2 No Action Alternative**

8 Selecting the no action alternative would result in no impact on transportation.

## 9 **3.8 UTILITIES**

### 10 **3.8.1 Affected Environment**

11 AUSP Thomson is served by multiple utilities that provide the facility with potable water, sanitary  
12 sewer services, electricity, natural gas, communication services, and solid waste disposal. Details  
13 on each utility are provided in this section.

#### 14 **3.8.1.1 Potable Water Supply**

15 The system that supplies water for domestic drinking water, irrigation, and distribution is operated  
16 and maintained by the Village of Thomson (FPDS-NG 2015). Drinking water at AUSP Thomson  
17 is provided by Village of Thomson Water System No. IL0150350 via water supply wells IEPA  
18 11726, 11727, and 01286. Wells 11726 and 11727 produce water at a combined rate of 700  
19 gallons per minute; well 01286 produces water at a rate of 950 gallons per minute. The system  
20 includes a 750,000-gallon water storage tank allocated for AUSP Thomson use. The water is  
21 treated with chemicals at the pump house for each well and meets all IEPA and EPA requirements  
22 for public water supply systems.

#### 23 **3.8.1.2 Wastewater System**

24 Wastewater is treated at the Thomson Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant (National Pollutant  
25 Discharge Elimination System Permit No. IL0073890). The design average flow of the treatment  
26 plant is 0.80 million gallons per day (mgd), with maximum flow for the facility of 2.64 mgd and  
27 actual maximum daily flow of 160 pounds daily. One outfall discharges to a backwater tributary to  
28 the Mississippi River and the outfall is operated and maintained by the Village of Thomson (IEPA  
29 2012).

#### 30 **3.8.1.3 Energy Sources**

31 Jo-Carroll Energy—which originally served only Jo Daviess and Carroll counties—provides  
32 electrical and natural gas services to AUSP Thomson. A medium-voltage substation serves the  
33 facility and the surrounding area. Emergency generators are available if needed (BOP 2010).

### 1 **3.8.1.4 Communications**

2 Verizon Communications provides telecommunications service to AUSP Thomson. Services  
3 include wireless and digital processing (e.g., fiber optic cable, voice, data, and cable television  
4 services) (FPDS-NG 2015).

### 5 **3.8.1.5 Solid Waste**

6 Solid waste at AUSP Thomson is collected and disposed of by Waste Management of Illinois Inc.,  
7 a private waste removal vendor. Operational refuse such as paper, plastics, dietary remains, and  
8 other trash is placed into dumpsters. When full, the dumpsters are unloaded into a compactor,  
9 which is removed by the vendor (FPDS-NG 2015).

## 10 **3.8.2 Environmental Consequences**

### 11 **3.8.2.1 Proposed Action**

12 Short- and long-term minor adverse and long-term beneficial effects on utilities would be  
13 expected. The short-term adverse effects would be caused by adding debris from construction  
14 associated with the proposed action to the appropriate landfill. Long-term adverse effects would be  
15 caused by increased utility usage at the new facilities. Long-term beneficial effects would be  
16 caused by upgrades to the wastewater system.

17 **Construction.** Implementation of the proposed action would generate approximately 68.4 tons  
18 (62.1 metric tons) of construction debris (see Table 3.8-1 and Appendix C). Approximately half of  
19 the debris would be recycled, which would result in 34.2 tons (31 metric tons) of nonhazardous  
20 construction debris for disposal in the assigned landfill. The U.S. Department of Justice is  
21 implementing waste reduction efforts through environmental management system initiatives in  
22 accordance with the department's *Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan* (DOJ 2013).

23 **Table 3.8-1.**  
24 **Summary of Construction Debris**

Alternative	Debris Generated (tons)	Quantity Recycled (50 percent) (tons)	Total Quantity Landfill Disposed (tons)
Proposed Action	68.4	34.2	34.2

Source: USEPA 1998.

25 **Operations.** A slight increase in utility systems usage would likely result from implementing the  
26 proposed action. Currently, utility lines at adjacent buildings with full utility service alleviate the  
27 need for new service connections. Sanitary sewer line would be constructed to serve the armory,  
28 bus garage service building, range building, and staff training center. The amounts of potable  
29 water, electricity, and natural gas the proposed buildings would require, and the wastewater and  
30 solid waste they would generate, would cause a slight increase in utility usage.

31 AUSP Thomson would not need to establish separate metered utility service for potable water,  
32 electricity, natural gas, or communications. Several fire hydrants along the path of the new paved  
33 fire access roads would need to be relocated to accommodate the roads. The proposed action  
34 would enclose, or partially enclose, the CUP so the equipment and maintenance personnel would  
35 be better protected from the weather. In addition, the proposed action includes a second generator  
36 (for redundancy) in the electrical enclosure.

1 The Bureau is in the process of determining whether the existing sewage outflow system is  
2 adequate for operations at AUSP Thomson should the proposed action be implemented. The  
3 institution has an existing bar screen building from which the sewage flows to a lift station and  
4 sanitary force main; however, past Bureau experience has found that the addition of grinder/auger  
5 equipment might become necessary. The evaluation shall verify and report on the existing  
6 conditions, and either confirm that the existing sewage outflow system is adequate for AUSA  
7 Thomson operations or provide recommendations for improvements. The effects of any upgrades  
8 to the wastewater system would be beneficial.

### 9 **3.8.2.2 No Action Alternative**

10 No effect on utilities would result from implementing the no action alternative. No additional  
11 demand on utility systems would be created.

## 12 **3.9 HAZARDOUS AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES**

### 13 **3.9.1 Affected Environment**

14 Support facilities at AUSA Thomson where hazardous materials or waste might be used or  
15 generated include a vehicle maintenance garage and emergency power sources. The garage has  
16 been used for minor vehicle maintenance such as oil changes, tire rotation, and vehicle detailing. A  
17 triple-basin oil/water separator collects wastewater from the floor drains in the garage areas. No  
18 underground storage tanks are located on the premises; however, three aboveground storage tanks  
19 are used for an emergency generator and motor vehicle fueling. The use of asbestos-containing  
20 building materials or lead-based paint during construction of the facility is unlikely since it was  
21 constructed in 2001.

22 In an effort to identify potential environmental issues on or in close proximity to AUSA Thomson,  
23 a review was conducted of geographic information system files from the IEPA Source Water  
24 Protection Program and the EPA EnviroMapper. The review identified no sites on or in close  
25 proximity to AUSA Thomson (IEPA 2015, USEPA 2015d).

### 26 **3.9.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### 27 **3.9.2.1 Proposed Action**

28 Short- and long-term minor adverse effects related to hazardous materials, toxic substances, and  
29 petroleum constituents would be expected from implementing the proposed action. In the short  
30 term, construction of the proposed projects would involve the use of heavy equipment and  
31 construction materials, which might result in minor spills of hazardous, toxic, or petroleum-based  
32 substances. Construction contractors would be responsible for preventing spills by implementing  
33 proper storage and handling procedures and by following established procedures. Over the long  
34 term, maintenance activities at the proposed bus garage would result in increased use of materials  
35 such as petroleum, oils, lubricants, solvents, and paints. Such maintenance activities, however,  
36 would be conducted in compliance with established BMPs and all local, state, and federal  
37 regulations.

38 Long-term minor adverse effects associated with firing range maintenance activities also could  
39 occur. As described in section 3.4.2, lead projectiles and fragments would need to be separated  
40 from soil and collected periodically, which could expose maintenance personnel to lead and dust.

1 Such exposure, however, would be unlikely through proper use of BMPs and compliance with  
2 health and safety regulations. No adverse effects would be expected from the amount of hazardous  
3 materials generated from use of the proposed range. Lead shot that has been used for its intended  
4 purpose, then properly separated from soil and recycled through implementation of range BMPs is  
5 not considered a RCRA hazardous waste. Soil that has been screened for lead fragments and  
6 projectiles can be spread back over the range; however, should AUSA Thomson officials decide in  
7 the future to remove range soil, the soil to be removed off-site would require testing to determine if  
8 it is a RCRA hazardous waste. Depending on the sampling results, the soil would then be managed  
9 in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations.

### 10 **3.9.2.2 No Action Alternative**

11 No adverse effects related to hazardous and toxic substances would result if the no action  
12 alternative was implemented.

## 13 **3.10 RESOURCE AREAS ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER DETAILED STUDY**

14 Resource areas upon which the proposed action would have negligible or no impacts did not  
15 receive detailed analysis in this EA. Those resource areas and the reasons for their elimination are  
16 discussed in this section.

### 17 **3.10.1 Aesthetics and Visual Resources**

18 No aesthetically sensitive areas are located within the viewshed of AUSA Thomson. The facility  
19 can be seen only from the local roads providing access to the site, not from the Mississippi River  
20 or from the main thoroughfare (Illinois SR 84). As construction activity is inherently aesthetically  
21 displeasing, the proposed action would have short-term, negligible adverse aesthetic effects during  
22 the construction period. In the long term, the proposed projects (new buildings, roads, parking  
23 lots) would be consistent with the look of the existing facilities. Light from the institution's  
24 perimeter fence high-mast lighting can be seen from the river at night, but the proposed action  
25 would not change this condition.

### 26 **3.10.2 Cultural Resources**

27 Cultural resources would not be adversely affected by implementing the proposed action. AUSA  
28 Thomson is not located in or within the viewshed of a historic district eligible for the National  
29 Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and no NRHP-eligible structures or sites are located on or  
30 adjacent to the property. In terms of archaeological resources, the property already has been  
31 extensively disturbed by historical and modern farming activities and by earthmoving activities  
32 conducted when the State of Illinois constructed the institution. The site is highly unlikely to  
33 contain any intact archaeological deposits that would be considered eligible for the NRHP;  
34 however, should any unrecorded archaeological sites, materials, or incidental finds be identified at  
35 any point in the future, the Bureau would consult with the Illinois State Historic Preservation  
36 Office and other interested parties to develop measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any  
37 associated adverse effects.

### 38 **3.10.3 Socioeconomics**

39 While socioeconomics would not be adversely affected by implementing the proposed action,  
40 short-term, negligible beneficial economic effects could result associated with employment of

1 construction personnel and the purchase and transportation of construction materials. The  
2 proposed action would not result, however, in any long-term or permanent change in regional  
3 business sales, personal income, employment, or population. No disproportionate adverse  
4 environmental or health effects would impact low-income or minority populations or children. The  
5 proposed action has no potential to substantially affect human health or the environment by  
6 excluding people, denying them benefits, or subjecting them to discrimination or environmental  
7 health or safety risks.

### 8 **3.11 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS SUMMARY**

9 The CEQ defines “cumulative effects” as:

10 Impacts on the environment which result from the incremental impact of the action when  
11 added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what  
12 agency (federal or nonfederal) or person undertakes such other actions (40 CFR 1508.7).

13 For the purposes of this EA, significant cumulative effects would occur if incremental impacts of  
14 the proposed action added to the environmental impacts of past, present, and reasonably  
15 foreseeable actions at the project site and the surrounding region exceeded significance thresholds  
16 for resources. No significant adverse effects, however, would be expected from implementing the  
17 proposed action. Anticipated effects would be minor and not sufficient to create substantial  
18 cumulative effects.

### 19 **3.12 MITIGATION SUMMARY**

20 Mitigation actions are used to reduce, avoid, or compensate for significant adverse effects. The  
21 proposed action would have the potential for appreciable long-term adverse effects due to the  
22 proposed firing range; therefore, the Bureau would implement the following mitigation measures  
23 to ensure effects remain at less-than-significant levels.

- 24 • Perform a preconstruction detailed acoustical modeling effort and incorporate noise  
25 reduction measures (i.e., walls, barriers, berms, firing orientation), as necessary, into the  
26 design of the range. This effort should focus on the existing and future residential land use  
27 surrounding the facility.
- 28 • Restrict the hours of operation to between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
- 29 • Comply with all applicable federal, state, and local noise regulations.
- 30 • Construct the firing range in accordance with the Bureau’s *Design Program Guidelines* so  
31 the range is large enough to accommodate the appropriate safety fan to contain all  
32 projectiles and ricochets.

1

This page intentionally left blank.

## 1 **SECTION 4.0**

### 2 **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

3 This EA evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the Bureau's proposed action to  
 4 implement facility improvements at AUSP Thomson. It also examines a no action alternative,  
 5 which is prescribed by CEQ regulations to serve as the baseline against which to analyze the  
 6 proposed action. Environmental resources evaluated in the EA are land use, air quality, noise,  
 7 soils, water, biological resources, transportation, utilities, and hazardous and toxic substances.  
 8 Resource areas on which implementing the proposed action would cause negligible or no adverse  
 9 impacts were not carried forward for detailed analysis. Those resource areas are aesthetics and  
 10 visual resources, cultural resources, and socioeconomics.

#### 11 **4.1 FINDINGS**

12 The expected consequences on all evaluated resource areas from implementing the proposed  
 13 action and the no action alternative are presented in Table 4.1-1. Evaluation indicates that the  
 14 actions would not result in significant adverse effects on the natural, visual, cultural, or  
 15 socioeconomic environments. No cumulative effects would be expected. Mitigation actions are  
 16 used to reduce, avoid, or compensate for significant adverse effects. The proposed action would  
 17 have the potential for appreciable long-term adverse effects from the proposed firing range;  
 18 therefore, the Bureau would implement mitigation measures to ensure effects remain at less-than-  
 19 significant levels (see section 3.12).

**Table 4.1-1.**  
**Summary of Potential Environmental and Socioeconomic Consequences**

<b>Resource Area</b>	<b>Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative)</b>	<b>No Action Alternative</b>
Land use	Long-term adverse effects	No effect
Air quality	Short- and long-term minor adverse effects	No effect
Noise	Short-term minor and long-term adverse effects	No effect
Soils	Short- and long-term minor adverse effects	No effect
Water resources	Short-term minor adverse effects	No effect
Biological resources	No effect	No effect
Transportation	Short-term minor adverse effects Long-term minor beneficial effects	No effect
Utilities	Short- and long-term minor adverse effects Long-term beneficial	No effect
Hazardous and toxic substances	Short- and long-term minor adverse effects	No effect
Aesthetics and visual resources	Short-term negligible adverse effects	No effect
Cultural resources	No effect	No effect
Socioeconomics	Short-term negligible beneficial effects	No effect

#### 21 **4.2 CONCLUSION**

22 The EA analysis concludes that implementing the proposed action would not result in significant  
 23 adverse environmental or socioeconomic effects. Issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact  
 24 would be appropriate, and an environmental impact statement would not be required prior to  
 25 implementation of the proposed action.

1

This page intentionally left blank.

1 **SECTION 5.0**  
2 **REFERENCES**

- 3 AirNav. 2015. *Airport Information*. Accessed October 2015. <http://www.airnav.com/airports/>.
- 4 Amtrak. 2015. *Amtrak Station Look-Up*. Accessed October 2015. [http://www.amtrak.com/find-](http://www.amtrak.com/find-train-bus-stations)  
5 [train-bus-stations](http://www.amtrak.com/find-train-bus-stations).
- 6 ANSI (American National Standards Institute). 2013. *American National Standard Quantities and*  
7 *Procedures for Description and Measurement of Environmental Sound—Part 3: Short-term*  
8 *measurements with an observer present*. ANSI S12.9-2013/Part 3. American National  
9 Standards Institute, Washington, DC.
- 10 BOP (Federal Bureau of Prisons). 2010. *Environmental Assessment for the Federal Bureau of*  
11 *Prisons' Acquisition and Activation of Thomson Correctional Center as Administrative*  
12 *United States Penitentiary Thomson*. Prepared for the Federal Bureau of Prisons by Tetra  
13 Tech, Inc., Fairfax, VA.
- 14 CCT (Carroll County Transit). 2015. *Public Transportation for Carroll County Residents*.  
15 Accessed October 2015. <http://www.ccseniorcenter.org/Transportation.html>.
- 16 CEQ (Council on Environmental Quality). 2014. *Memorandum for Heads of Federal Departments*  
17 *and Agencies on Draft NEPA Guidance on Consideration of the Effects of Climate Change*  
18 *and Greenhouse Gas Emissions*. Accessed October 2015. [https://www.whitehouse.gov/](https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/nepa/ghg-guidance)  
19 [administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/nepa/ghg-guidance](https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/nepa/ghg-guidance).
- 20 DOJ (U.S. Department of Justice). 2013. *Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan*. U.S.  
21 Department of Justice, Justice Management Division Facilities and Administrative Services,  
22 Staff Environmental and Sustainability Services. Accessed October 2015.  
23 <http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/jmd/legacy/2014/01/04/doj-sspp-2013.pdf>.
- 24 ESRI. 2014. World Imagery map. ArcGIS Map Service. Accessed October 2015.  
25 <http://www.esri.com/data/basemaps>.
- 26 FPDS-NG (Federal Procurement Data System—Next Generation). 2015. *Utility Suppliers for*  
27 *AUSP Thomson*. Accessed October 2015. <https://www.fpds.gov/>.
- 28 GSI (Geotechnical Services, Inc.). 2001. *Report of Geotechnical Investigation Thomson Gun*  
29 *Range Thomson Correctional Facility, Thomson, Illinois*. Geotechnical Services, Inc.,  
30 Davenport, IA.
- 31 Harris, C.M. 1998. *Handbook of Acoustical Measurement and Noise Control*. Acoustical Society  
32 of America, Sewickley, PA.
- 33 Hede, A.J., and R.B. Bullen. 1982. Community reaction to noise from a suburban rifle range.  
34 *Journal of Sound and Vibration* 82(1):39–49.
- 35 Idcide. 2015. *Weather and Climate Thomson Illinois*. Accessed October 2015.  
36 <http://www.idcide.com/weather/il/thomson.htm>.

- 1 IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation). 2015. *Getting Around Illinois Traffic Viewer*.  
2 Accessed October 2015. <http://www.gettingaroundillinois.com/gai.htm?mt=aadt#>.
- 3 IEPA (Illinois Environmental Protection Agency). 2012. *NPDES Permit No IL0073890*. Accessed  
4 October 2015. <http://www.epa.state.il.us/public-notices/2012/thompson-wwtp/index.pdf>.
- 5 IEPA (Illinois Environmental Protection Agency). 2014. *Integrated Water Quality Report and*  
6 *303d Lists*. Appendix A-2. Illinois's 2014 303(d) List. Accessed October 2015. [http://www.](http://www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/watershed-management/tmdls/303d-list/index)  
7 [epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/watershed-management/tmdls/303d-list/index](http://www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/watershed-management/tmdls/303d-list/index).
- 8 IEPA (Illinois Environmental Protection Agency) 2015. *Source Water Assessment Program,*  
9 *Thomson, Carroll County*. Accessed November 2015. <http://maps.epa.state.il.us>.
- 10 IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). 2007. *Contribution of Working Group II to*  
11 *the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. Cambridge  
12 University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom.
- 13 ITE (Institute of Transportation Engineers). 2003. *Transportation Engineers Trip Generation*  
14 *Manual*. 7th ed. Institute of Transportation Engineers, Washington, DC.
- 15 Purdue (Purdue University). 2015. *Primary Distinguishing Characteristics of Level III Ecoregions*  
16 *of the Continental United States*. Accessed October 2015. [https://hort.purdue.edu/newcrop/](https://hort.purdue.edu/newcrop/cropmap/ecoreg/descript.html)  
17 [cropmap/ecoreg/descript.html](https://hort.purdue.edu/newcrop/cropmap/ecoreg/descript.html).
- 18 USDA NRCS (U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service). 2015.  
19 *Web Soil Survey*. Accessed October 2015. [http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/](http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm)  
20 [App/HomePage.htm](http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm).
- 21 USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 1971. *Noise from Construction Equipment and*  
22 *Operations, Building Equipment, and Home Appliances*. Publication NTID300.1. Accessed  
23 October 2015. <http://www.nepis.epa.gov>.
- 24 USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 1998. *Characterization of Building Related*  
25 *Construction and Demolition Debris in the United States*. Report No. EPA530-R-98-010. U.S.  
26 Environmental Protection Agency, Municipal and Industrial Solid Waste Division, Office of  
27 Solid Waste, Washington, DC.
- 28 USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 2005. *Best Management Practices for Lead at*  
29 *Outdoor Shooting Ranges*. Publication No. EPA-902-B-01-001. U.S. Environmental  
30 Protection Agency, Washington, DC.
- 31 USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 2015a. *Attainment Status*. Accessed October  
32 2015. <http://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/astate.html>.
- 33 USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 2015b. *AirData Web Site*. Accessed October  
34 2015. [http://www.epa.gov/airdata/ad\\_rep\\_con.html](http://www.epa.gov/airdata/ad_rep_con.html).
- 35 USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 2015c. *Climate Change - Health and*  
36 *Environmental Effects*. Accessed October 2015. <http://epa.gov/climatechange/index.html>.

- 1 USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 2015d. *EnviroMapper*. Accessed November  
2 2015. [http://map11.epa.gov/myem/efmap/index.html?ve=12,41.97268295288086,-](http://map11.epa.gov/myem/efmap/index.html?ve=12,41.97268295288086,-90.06834411621094&pText=61285,%20IL)  
3 [90.06834411621094&pText=61285,%20IL](http://map11.epa.gov/myem/efmap/index.html?ve=12,41.97268295288086,-90.06834411621094&pText=61285,%20IL).
- 4 USFWS (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). 2015. *Information for Planning and Conservation*.  
5 Accessed October 2015. <http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>.
- 6 Village of Thomson. 2014. *Corporate Zoning Map, Village of Thomson, Carroll County, Illinois*.  
7 Accessed October 2015. <http://www.thomsonil.com/documents/2014ThomsonMap.pdf>.

1

This page intentionally left blank.

1 **SECTION 6.0**  
2 **PERSONS AND AGENCIES CONSULTED**

- 3 Note: All communications occurred between October and November 2015.
- 4 Amer, MaryClare, P.E. Civil Engineer, Wallace Engineering, Inc., Kansas City, MO.
- 5 Ashby, Jeff. Director, Thomson Public Works Department, Village of Thomson, IL.
- 6 Bunch, Mandy, P.E. Civil Engineer, Wallace Engineering, Inc., Kansas City, MO.
- 7 King, J. General Foreman, AUSP Thomson, Thomson, IL.
- 8 Muncy, Ed. Engineering Technician, AUSP Thomson, Thomson, IL.
- 9 Wise, Steven. Principal, SFS Architecture, Kansas City, MO.

1

This page intentionally left blank.

1 **SECTION 7.0**

2 **LIST OF PREPARERS**

3  
4 Mike Bettaker, Tetra Tech, Inc.  
5 M.S., Environmental Science and Engineering, Virginia Tech  
6 B.S., Biology, Florida Institute of Technology  
7 Years of Experience: 36  
8

9 Michelle Cannella, Tetra Tech, Inc.  
10 B.S., Mineral Economics, Pennsylvania State University  
11 Years of Experience: 16  
12

13 Penelope Garver, Tetra Tech, Inc.  
14 B.S., Journalism, University of Maryland  
15 Years of Experience: 25  
16

17 Greg Hippert, Tetra Tech, Inc.  
18 B.S., Earth Science, University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
19 Years of Experience: 18  
20

21 Jennifer Jarvis, Tetra Tech, Inc.  
22 B.S., Environmental Resource Management, Virginia Tech  
23 Years of Experience: 14  
24

25 Timothy Lavalley, LPES, Inc. Engineering and Planning  
26 M.S., Environmental Health, Tufts University  
27 B.S., Mechanical Engineering, Northeastern University  
28 Years of Experience: 22  
29

30 Samuel Pett, Tetra Tech, Inc.  
31 M.S., Environmental Science and Policy, University of Massachusetts Boston  
32 B.S., Wildlife Biology and Zoology, Michigan State University  
33 Years of Experience: 22

1

This page intentionally left blank.

1 **SECTION 8.0**

2 **DISTRIBUTION LIST**

3 **Agencies:**

4 Ms. Sunny Fischer, Chair  
5 Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
6 1 Old State Capitol Plaza  
7 Springfield, IL 62701-1507  
8

9 Mr. Kraig McPeck, Field Office Supervisor  
10 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
11 Rock Island Illinois Field Office  
12 1511 47th Avenue  
13 Moline, IL 61265  
14

15 **Public Libraries:**

16 Chadwick Public Library District  
17 110 Main Street  
18 Chadwick, IL 61014  
19

20 Lanark Public Library  
21 110 West Carroll Street  
22 Lanark, IL 61046  
23

24 Mount Carroll Township Public Library  
25 208 North Main  
26 Mount Carroll, IL 61053  
27

28 Savanna Public Library District  
29 326 Third Street  
30 Savanna, IL 61074  
31

32 Milledgeville Public Library  
33 18 West Fifth Street  
34 Milledgeville, IL 61051  
35

36 York Township Public Library  
37 1005 West Main Street  
38 Thomson, IL 61285

1

This page intentionally left blank.

1  
2  
3

**Appendix A**  
**Agency Coordination Letters**

1

This page intentionally left blank.



October 28, 2015

Ms. Sunny Fischer, Chair  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
1 Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, IL 62701-1507

Subject: Environmental Assessment (EA) for Bureau of Prison Improvements at Administrative United States Penitentiary (AUSP) Thomson, Thomson, Illinois

Dear Ms. Fischer:

The Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons (BOP) is preparing an EA to evaluate the impacts of implementing facility improvements at AUSP Thomson, located approximately one mile northwest of the Village of Thomson in Carroll County, Illinois. The Illinois Department of Corrections built the prison in 2001, and it was acquired by the BOP in October 2012. The principal facilities consist of eight maximum-security housing units (housing up to 3,200 inmates), a minimum-security housing unit (housing up to 200 inmates), and administration building, prisoner programs building, prisoner support building, and a warehouse. Up to 1,100 staff can be employed at AUSP Thomson. The proposed Bureau improvements have been deemed necessary for the new federal mission at AUSP Thomson.

Elements of the proposed action include construction of an armory, parking lot expansion and improvements (lighting and storm water drainage), fire access road improvements, a new security fence inside the existing secure-area fence, storm water retention drainage improvements, construction of a bus garage service building, electrical equipment enclosure for the central powerhouse, construction of a staff training course and firing range, and construction of a staff training center. All of the proposed improvements would be on AUSP Thomson property outside the secure area perimeter fence, with the exception of the fire access road improvements and new security fence which would be inside the secure area fence around the maximum-security housing units. The estimated construction period for the proposed projects is Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 through FY 2018.

The proposed action provides for like-use of the area at AUSP Thomson and involves construction as described above. AUSP Thomson was constructed by the State of Illinois on former farmland. The land surrounding the AUSP Thomson property is almost entirely agricultural. Agricultural activities involving earthmoving such as drain installation, plowing, and crop harvesting would have disturbed to some degree any buried archaeological materials at this site. In addition, the extensive earthmoving and fill activities that took place when the State of Illinois constructed the institution would have disturbed or destroyed any buried archaeological remains at this site. No historic buildings are known to have been constructed on or adjacent to the AUSP Thomson site. AUSP Thomson is not in or within the viewshed of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible historic district.



This correspondence is being sent as part of the agency scoping for the EA. For reference, a location map and a proposed draft site map have been included with this correspondence. Please submit within 30 days of receipt of this letter any comments you have on the proposed action via letter correspondence or agency stamp to my attention at the following address: Tetra Tech, Inc., 10306 Eaton Place, Suite 340, Fairfax, VA 22030. If you have any questions, please contact me at (703) 385-1202 or via email at [mike.bettaker@tetrattech.com](mailto:mike.bettaker@tetrattech.com). Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Michael Bettaker', written in a cursive style.

J. Michael Bettaker, Vice President  
Tetra Tech, Inc.

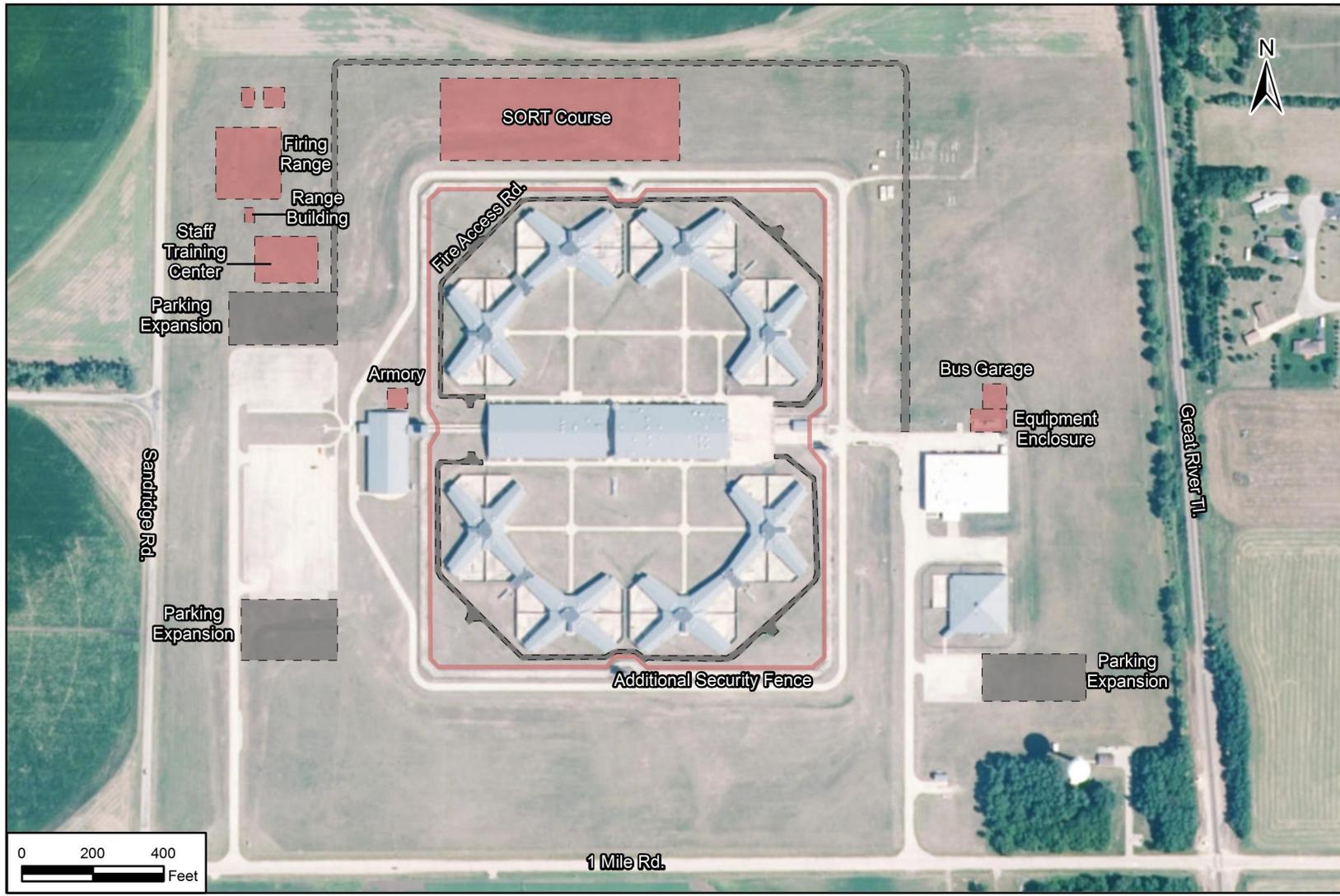


**LEGEND**

- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- Interstate Highway
- U.S. Route
- Urban Area
- Surface Water

**General Location Map**

**Figure 1**



**LEGEND**  
 ■ Proposed New Construction  
 ■ Proposed New Paving

## Proposed Improvements at AUSP Thomson

Source: ESRI 2014. Note: Not to scale. Locations are approximate.

Figure 2

---

**Subject:** FW: AUSP Thomson project

---

**From:** Blankenship, Tina [<mailto:Tina.Blankenship@Illinois.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 07, 2015 11:57 AM  
**To:** Betteker, Mike <[Mike.Betteker@tetrattech.com](mailto:Mike.Betteker@tetrattech.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: AUSP Thomson project

OK Thanks

***Tina Blankenship***  
***Preservation Services – Archaeology Division***  
***Illinois Historic Preservation Agency***  
***One Old State Capital Plaza***  
***Springfield, Illinois 62701***

---

**From:** Betteker, Mike [<mailto:Mike.Betteker@tetrattech.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 07, 2015 10:54 AM  
**To:** Blankenship, Tina <[Tina.Blankenship@Illinois.gov](mailto:Tina.Blankenship@Illinois.gov)>  
**Cc:** MaryClare Amer <[mamer@wallacesc.com](mailto:mamer@wallacesc.com)>; Steve Wise <[swise@sfsarch.com](mailto:swise@sfsarch.com)>; Cannella, Michelle <[Michelle.Cannella@tetrattech.com](mailto:Michelle.Cannella@tetrattech.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: AUSP Thomson project

Tina

In response to your questions:

All of the buildings on site were constructed in 2003. The buildings are not located in or within the viewshed of a historic district eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and no NRHP-eligible structures or sites are located on or adjacent to the property.

The armory is not connected to the administration building and the planned site improvements will not have an impact on any of the buildings.

None of the other new construction will connect to any existing structures. None of the current structures will be impacted by any of the work.

If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you

**Mike Betteker** | Vice President  
Phone: 703.385.1202 | Fax: 703.385.6007

Mobile: 703.362.4575  
[mike.betteker@tetrattech.com](mailto:mike.betteker@tetrattech.com)

**Tetra Tech** | Complex World, Clear Solutions  
[www.tetrattech.com](http://www.tetrattech.com) | NASDAQ:TTEK  
10306 Eaton Place, Suite 340, Fairfax, VA 22030

PLEASE NOTE: This message, including any attachments, may include privileged, confidential and/or inside information. Any distribution or use of this communication by anyone other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender by replying to this message and then delete it from your system.

---

**From:** Blankenship, Tina [<mailto:Tina.Blankenship@Illinois.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 07, 2015 8:27 AM  
**To:** Betteker, Mike <[Mike.Betteker@tetrattech.com](mailto:Mike.Betteker@tetrattech.com)>  
**Subject:** AUSP Thomson project

Good morning

We are in receipt of the above project, however I need to clarify whether or not any of the current structures will be impacted by any of the work.

It appears the Armory is close to another building, will it be attached or will it be a new stand alone structure??

Thanks

***Tina Blankenship  
Preservation Services – Archaeology Division  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
One Old State Capital Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62701***



October 28, 2015

Mr. Kraig McPeek, Field Office Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Rock Island Illinois Field Office  
1511 47th Avenue  
Moline, IL 61265

Subject: Environmental Assessment (EA) for Bureau of Prison Improvements at Administrative United States Penitentiary (AUSP) Thomson, Thomson, Illinois

Dear Mr. McPeek:

The Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons (BOP) is preparing an EA to evaluate the impacts of implementing facility improvements at AUSP Thomson, located approximately one mile northwest of the Village of Thomson in Carroll County, Illinois. The Illinois Department of Corrections built the prison in 2001, and it was acquired by the BOP in October 2012. The principal facilities consist of eight maximum-security housing units (housing up to 3,200 inmates), a minimum-security housing unit (housing up to 200 inmates), and administration building, prisoner programs building, prisoner support building, and a warehouse. Up to 1,100 staff can be employed at AUSP Thomson. The proposed Bureau improvements have been deemed necessary for the new federal mission at AUSP Thomson.

Elements of the proposed action include construction of an armory, parking lot expansion and improvements (lighting and storm water drainage), fire access road improvements, a new security fence inside the existing secure-area fence, storm water retention drainage improvements, construction of a bus garage service building, electrical equipment enclosure for the central powerhouse, construction of a staff training course and firing range, and construction of a staff training center. All of the proposed improvements would be on AUSP Thomson property outside the secure area perimeter fence, with the exception of the fire access road improvements and new security fence which would be inside the secure area fence around the maximum-security housing units. The estimated construction period for the proposed projects is Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 through FY 2018.

The proposed action provides for like-use of the area at AUSP Thomson and involves construction as described above. The area within the project boundary consists entirely of mowed grass with some shrubbery. Much of the facility is already fenced-in, overall represents poor quality wildlife habitat, and is not expected to be used by any state or federally-listed species. The land surrounding the AUSP Thomson property is almost entirely agricultural. Any disturbance to wildlife in the surrounding area from construction activities would be minimal and limited to the term of construction activities. The proposed action is expected to have no effects on any state or federally listed species, migratory birds, or their habitats.



This correspondence is being sent as part of the agency scoping for the EA. For reference, a location map and a proposed draft site map have been included with this correspondence. Please submit within 30 days of receipt of this letter any comments you have on the proposed action via letter correspondence or agency stamp to my attention at the following address: Tetra Tech, Inc., 10306 Eaton Place, Suite 340, Fairfax, VA 22030. If you have any questions, please contact me at (703) 385-1202 or via email at [mike.bettaker@tetrattech.com](mailto:mike.bettaker@tetrattech.com). Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Michael Bettaker', written in a cursive style.

J. Michael Bettaker, Vice President  
Tetra Tech, Inc.

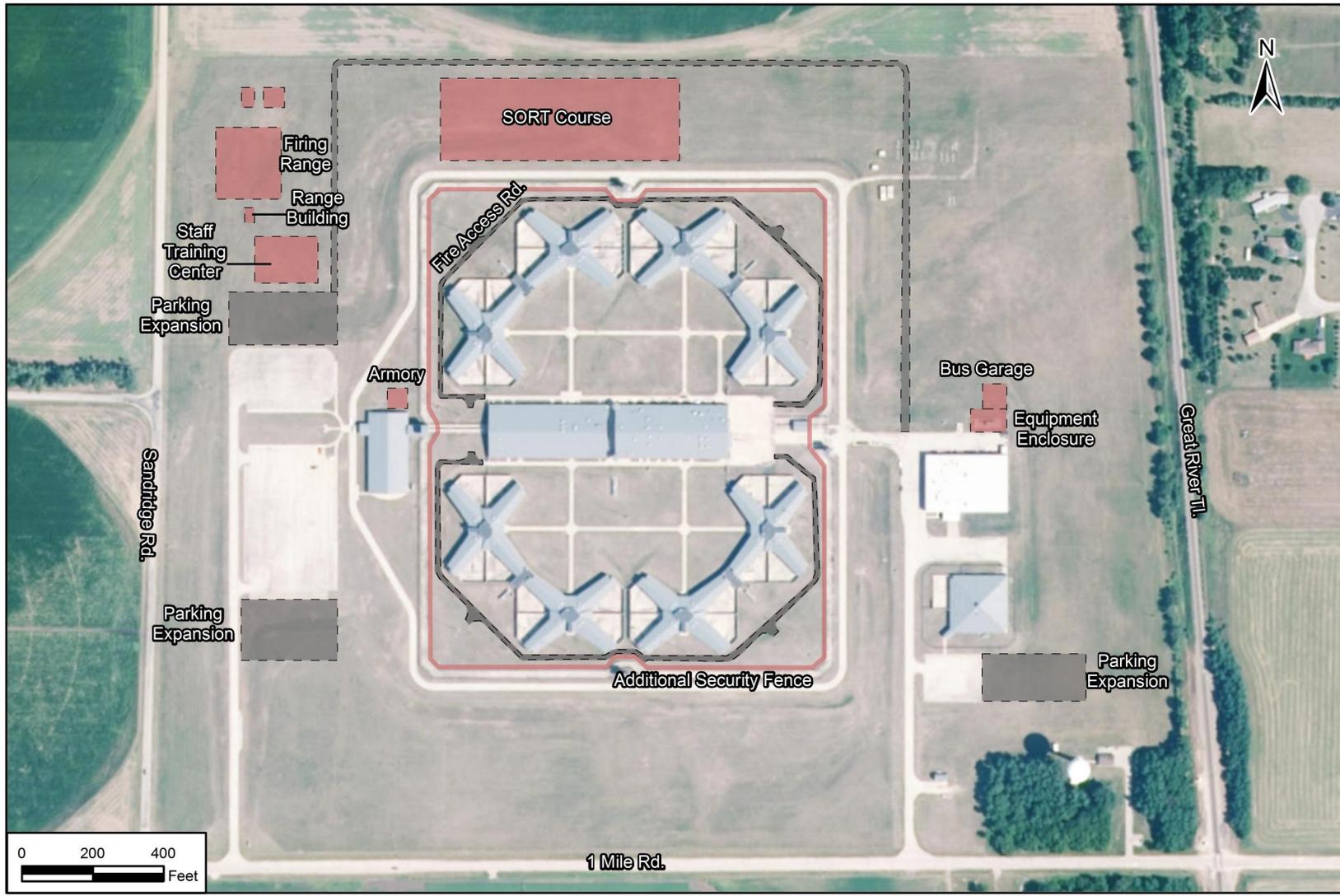


**LEGEND**

- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- Interstate Highway
- U.S. Route
- Urban Area
- Surface Water

**General Location Map**

**Figure 1**



**LEGEND**  
 ■ Proposed New Construction  
 ■ Proposed New Paving

## Proposed Improvements at AUSP Thomson

Source: ESRI 2014. Note: Not to scale. Locations are approximate.

Figure 2

1  
2  
3

**Appendix B**  
**Air Emissions Calculations**

1

This page intentionally left blank.

Table B-1. Construction Equipment Use

Equipment Type	Number of Units	Days on Site	Hours Per Day	Operating Hours
Excavator	1	115	4	460
Roller	1	173	8	1,384
Rubber-Tired Dozer	1	115	8	920
Plate Compactor	1	115	4	460
Trencher	1	58	8	464
Air Compressor	1	115	4	460
Cement Mixer	1	115	6	690
Crane	1	115	7	805
Generator Set	1	115	4	460
Loader/Backhoe	1	230	7	1,610
Paver	1	58	8	464
Paving Equipment	1	58	8	464

Table B-2. Construction Equipment Emission Factors (lb/hour)

Equipment	CO	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	SO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub>
Excavator	0.5828	1.3249	0.1695	0.0013	0.0727	0.0727	119.6
Roller	0.4341	0.8607	0.1328	0.0008	0.0601	0.0601	67.1
Rubber-Tired Dozer	1.5961	3.2672	0.3644	0.0025	0.1409	0.1409	239.1
Plate Compactor	0.0263	0.0328	0.0052	0.0001	0.0021	0.0021	4.3
Trencher	0.5080	0.8237	0.1851	0.0007	0.0688	0.0688	58.7
Air Compressor	0.3782	0.7980	0.1232	0.0007	0.0563	0.0563	63.6
Cement Mixer	0.0447	0.0658	0.0113	0.0001	0.0044	0.0044	7.2
Crane	0.6011	1.6100	0.1778	0.0014	0.0715	0.0715	128.7
Generator Set	0.3461	0.6980	0.1075	0.0007	0.0430	0.0430	61.0
Loader/Backhoe	0.4063	0.7746	0.1204	0.0008	0.0599	0.0599	66.8
Paver	0.5874	1.0796	0.1963	0.0009	0.0769	0.0769	77.9
Paving Equipment	0.0532	0.1061	0.0166	0.0002	0.0063	0.0063	12.6

Source: CARB 2015.

Table B-3. Construction Equipment Emissions (tons)

Equipment	CO	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	SO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub>
Excavator	0.1341	0.3047	0.0390	0.0003	0.0167	0.0167	27.5
Roller	0.7342	1.5029	0.1676	0.0011	0.0648	0.0648	110.0
Rubber-Tired Dozer	0.0061	0.0076	0.0012	0.0000	0.0005	0.0005	1.0
Plate Compactor	0.1179	0.1911	0.0429	0.0002	0.0160	0.0160	13.6
Trencher	0.0870	0.1835	0.0283	0.0002	0.0130	0.0130	14.6
Air Compressor	0.0154	0.0227	0.0039	0.0000	0.0015	0.0015	2.5
Cement Mixer	0.2419	0.6480	0.0716	0.0006	0.0288	0.0288	51.8
Crane	0.0796	0.1605	0.0247	0.0002	0.0099	0.0099	14.0
Generator Set	0.3271	0.6235	0.0969	0.0006	0.0482	0.0482	53.8
Loader/Backhoe	0.1363	0.2505	0.0455	0.0002	0.0178	0.0178	18.1
Paver	0.0123	0.0246	0.0038	0.0000	0.0015	0.0015	2.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.89</b>	<b>3.92</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>0.22</b>	<b>0.22</b>	<b>309.8</b>

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10

**Table B-4. Emissions from Painting**

VOC Content	0.84	lb/gal		
Coverage	400	ft <sup>2</sup> /gal		
Emission Factor	0.0021	lb/ft <sup>2</sup>		
Building/Facility	Area [ft <sup>2</sup> ]	Wall Surface	VOC [lb]	VOC [tons]
All Buildings Combined	31,100	62,200	130.6	0.065
Total	31,100	62,200	130.6	0.07

Source: SCAQMD 1993.

**Table B-5. Emissions from Delivery of Equipment and Supplies**

Number of Deliveries	2						
Number of Trips	2						
Miles Per Trip	30						
Days of Construction	230						
Total Miles	27,600						
Pollutant	CO	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	SO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub>
Emission Factor (lb/mile)	2.2E-02	2.4E-02	3.0E-03	2.6E-05	8.6E-04	7.4E-04	2.7E+00
Total Emissions (lb)	605.8	654.5	82.6	0.7	23.6	20.4	75,056.4
Total Emissions (tons)	0.30	0.33	0.04	0.0004	0.01	0.01	37.5

Source: CARB 2015.

**Table B-6. Particulates from Surface Disturbance**

TSP Emissions	37.4	lb/acre				
PM <sub>10</sub> /TSP	0.45					
PM <sub>2.5</sub> /PM <sub>10</sub>	0.15					
Period of Disturbance	30	days				
Capture Fraction	0.5					
Building/Facility	Area [acres]	TSP [lb]	PM <sub>10</sub> [lb]	PM <sub>10</sub> [tons]	PM <sub>2.5</sub> [lb]	PM <sub>2.5</sub> [tons]
All Facilities	4.2	4,721	2,125	1.06	159	0.08
Total	4.2	4,721	2,125	1.06	159	0.08

Source: USEPA 1995.

**Table B-7. Emissions from Construction Worker Commutes**

Number of Workers	24						
Number of Trips	2						
Miles Per Trip	30						
Days of Construction	58						
Total Miles	83,520						
Pollutant	CO	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	SO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub>
Emission Factor (lb/mile)	1.1E-02	1.1E-03	1.1E-03	1.1E-05	8.5E-05	5.3E-05	1.1E+00
Total Emissions (lb)	881	92	90	1	7	4	91,833
Total Emissions (tons)	0.44	0.05	0.05	0.9	0.00	0.00	45.9

Source: CARB 2015.

**Table B-8. Total Construction Emissions (tons)**

Activity/Source	CO	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	SO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub>
Heavy Equipment	1.89	3.92	0.53	0.0034	0.22	0.22	309.84
Painting	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.0000	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delivery of Equipment	0.30	0.33	0.04	0.0004	0.01	0.01	37.53
Surface Disturbance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0000	1.06	0.08	0.00
Worker Commutes	0.44	0.05	0.05	0.8976	0.00	0.00	45.92
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>393.3</b>

Sources: CARB 2015, SCAQMD 1993, USEPA 1995.

**Table B-9. Heating Emission**

Heating Fuel	Natural Gas						
Region	North						
Gross Area	25,000	sf					
Heating Requirements	100.7	Btu/sf					
Annual Heating	2,517,500	Btu/year					
Heating Value	1,020	Btu/scf					
Annual Fuel Use	2,468	scf/year					
Pollutant	CO	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	SO <sub>x</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub>
Emission Factors (lb/1000 scf)	84	190	5.5	0.6	7.6	7.6	1.2E+05
Total Emissions (tpy)	0.1	0.2	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	148.1

Sources: USEPA 1995, DOE 2003.

## References

CARB (California Air Resources Board). 2015. *EMFAC Emission Rates Database*. Accessed October 2015.  
[http://www.arb.ca.gov/jpub/webapp/EMFAC2011WebApp/rateSelectionPage\\_1.jsp](http://www.arb.ca.gov/jpub/webapp/EMFAC2011WebApp/rateSelectionPage_1.jsp).

DOE (U.S. Department of Energy). 2003. *Consumption and Gross Energy Intensity by Census Region for Sum of Major Fuels, Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey*. U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC. Accessed October 2015.  
[http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cbecs/cbecs2003/detailed\\_tables\\_2003/detailed\\_tables\\_2003.html](http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cbecs/cbecs2003/detailed_tables_2003/detailed_tables_2003.html).

SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District). 1993. *CEQA Air Quality Handbook*. South Coast Air Quality Management District, Diamond Bar, CA.

USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 1995. *Compilation of Air Pollutant Emission Factors, AP-42, 5th edition, Vol. I: Stationary Point and Area Sources*. Accessed October 2015. <http://www.epa.gov/ttnchie1/ap42/>.

1

This page intentionally left blank.

1  
2  
3

**Appendix C**  
**Construction Debris Calculations**

1

This page intentionally left blank.

1

**Table C-1. Construction Debris**

<b>Solid Waste</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Building square footage</b>	<b>Construction debris-lb/sq ft</b>	<b>Total construction debris</b>
Construction	31,100	4.40	136,840.00
		Pounds	136,840.00
		Tons	68.42
		<b>Recycled quantity:</b>	
		Pounds	68,420.00
		Tons	34.21
		<b>Total:</b>	
		Recycled tons:	34.21
		Disposed tons:	34.21

2 Source: USEPA 1998

3

4

5 **Reference**

6 USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 1998. *Characterization of Building Related*  
 7 *Construction and Demolition Debris in the United States*. Report No. EPA530-R-98-010. June 1998.  
 8 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Municipal and Industrial Solid Waste Division, Office of  
 9 Solid Waste, Washington, D.C.

1

This page intentionally left blank.