



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**
Charleston District

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Corps begins alternative analysis on the SCSPA Draft EIS

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Charleston, SC – The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District has concluded the scoping process and begun the alternatives analysis portion of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed South Carolina State Ports Authority (SCSPA) marine container terminal at the Charleston Naval Complex (CNC).

The Corps went through an extensive screening process to objectively evaluate and compare each alternative to provide a clear basis for selection. After a thorough investigation, the Corps is including the following alternatives for further consideration in the draft EIS:

- No-Action
- Single site: CNC, South-End (Proposed Alternative)
- Single site: Daniel Island, Cooper River
- Single site: Clouter Island, South-End
- Combination: Drum Island and Expansion at North Charleston Terminal
- Combination: CNC, North-End and Expansion at North Charleston Terminal

Next, the Corps will prepare a draft EIS (as described by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969) to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed SCSPA project. The alternatives analysis is considered the “heart of the NEPA process” and evaluates alternatives to the project as proposed by the SCSPA.

During the scoping process, members of the public were able to attend scoping meetings and information workshops during which they were given an opportunity to learn about, and provide comments on issues and concerns associated with the proposed project. The formal public comment period concluded on April 15, 2004. The comments received were used to consider and screen alternatives for the draft EIS.

The public can find more information about the draft EIS via the project website at www.PortEIS.com or the project hotline (843-971-7970). Updates and announcements concerning the scope of the DEIS and the selection of the final alternatives will be made as the information becomes available. Those who are not already on the Corps’ mailing list, may register at the project website. The Corps also encourages the public to look forward to the first in a series of PortEIS Newsletters made available this summer.