



FORT GEORGE G. MEADE  
**NEWS RELEASE**

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
4409 Llewellyn Ave.  
FORT MEADE, MD 20755  
[www.ftmeade.army.mil](http://www.ftmeade.army.mil)

June 27, 2014

Release #140627

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Army assessing the impact of further cuts in force structure

The U.S. Army is seeking public comment through a Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment on the potential for environmental impacts resulting from a restructuring proposal which would reduce the total force by 70,000 Soldiers. The SPEA process allows management decision makers to compare and contrast the impact of reductions, re-stationing and deactivations on communities across the Army. In addition, the SPEA process is designed to inform the public about the plan and provide an opportunity for public comment.

The process is intended to assess impact of troop reductions at Army installations not included in the original 2013 Programmatic Environmental Assessment. The analysis is based on a mathematical calculation and does not consider operational missions of the units stationed at the installation.

“This is simply an effort to better inform senior Army leadership as they begin to assess the impact of further reduction in forces across the Army,” said Col. Brian Foley, Fort Meade Garrison Commander. “The majority of Army units on Fort Meade are performing vital national level intelligence and communication missions. These units are seeing their responsibilities increase in contrast to the overall downsizing of our conventional military force.”

The proposed reductions are not tied to any particular unit or civilian position. While Fort Meade is home to all branches of service, the reductions impact only Army end strength. “Fort Meade is a huge Department of Defense Installation with a relatively small Army footprint,” said Foley. “Any reductions in Army end strength on the installation will be more than offset by the growth of USCYBERCOM and the supporting service Cyber organizations and elements. Fort Meade is one of the few Army Forts that will grow in contrast to Army downsizing over the next five years. We are using the SPEA as another opportunity to tell the Fort Meade story to our Army Leadership.”

The Army’s overall size is connected to the eventual budgets that will be approved from Fiscal Year 2015-2020. Decisions on force structure cannot be finalized until future budgets are determined and released. The process of Army force realignment is an evolving process that will take place over multiple years. Decisions will be made over that time period as future budgets are approved.

The SPEA documentation can be found at [www.ftmeade.army.mil/environmental](http://www.ftmeade.army.mil/environmental). Paper copies of the report can be viewed at the Fort Meade Environmental Division office at 4215 Roberts Ave., Room 320. By July 3, additional paper copies will be available at the West County

Area Library, 1325 Annapolis Road, Odenton and at the Medal of Honor Memorial Library, 4418 Llewellyn Ave., Fort Meade.

Also, approximately one week after publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register by the Army, copies of the SPEA and draft FNSI will be available in some public libraries near the affected installations.

Interested community members may submit written comments during the comment period. Comments must be postmarked by August 25, 2014, and sent to U.S. Army Environmental Command, ATTN: SPEA Public Comments, 2450 Connell Road (Building 2264), Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-7664; or by email to [usarmy.ibsa.aec.nepa@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.ibsa.aec.nepa@mail.mil). Following the public comment period, written responses will be prepared and included in the Administrative Record.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: For more information, please contact: Mary Doyle in the Fort Meade Public Affairs Office at (301) 677-5592 or [mary.i.doyle14.civ@mail.mil](mailto:mary.i.doyle14.civ@mail.mil) For more about Fort Meade, visit our Web site [www.ftmeade.army.mil](http://www.ftmeade.army.mil) and look for Fort George G. Meade on Facebook and Twitter.**