NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSEMENT AND DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

IMPLEMENTATION OF A 30MW PV SOLAR FACILITY AT FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

The United States Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, Directorate of Public Works, Fort Benning, Georgia, hereby announces the availability of the "Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the Proposed Implementation of a 30 Megawatt (MW) Photovoltaic (PV) Solar Facility at Fort Benning, Georgia." These documents address the proposal to allow Georgia Power to design, construct, operate, and maintain 30MW PV Solar Facility through a utilities easement on Fort Benning. This Proposed Action would assist the Army in reaching its renewable energy goals.

The Final EA and Draft FNSI have been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 USC 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), and the Army NEPA Regulation (*Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*, Final Rule, 32 CFR Part 651). Publication of this notice begins a 30-day public review period. The public is invited to review and comment on the Final EA and Draft FNSI from July 24 – August 22, 2014. Copies of the Final EA and Draft FNSI may be viewed at the following locations:

- 1. Columbus Public Library
- 2. Sayers Memorial Library (Fort Benning Main Post Library)
- 3. Cusseta-Chattahoochee Public Library
- 4. Phenix City Russell County Library

In addition, the Final EA and Draft FNSI are also posted on Fort Benning's website at <u>http://www.benning.army.mil/garrison/DPW/EMD/legal.htm</u>. Written comments concerning this Final EA and Draft FNSI are invited; the comments must be received by **August 22, 2014** to ensure consideration prior to reaching any FNSI.

Written public comments should be addressed to:

• **Mr. John Brent**; Environmental Management Division Chief; IMSE-BEN-PWE-P; 6650 Meloy Drive; Building 6, Room 307; Fort Benning, Georgia 31905; or via e-mail at john.j.brent.civ@mail.mil.

For further information or to request a copy of the documents, please contact the U.S Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Programs Management Branch (Attention: **Mr. John E. Brown**, NEPA Program Manager), 6650 Meloy Drive; Building 6 (Meloy Hall), Room 309; Fort Benning, Georgia 31905-5122 or call (706) 545-7549.

Sincerely,

Craig Taylor Director of Public Works Fort Benning, Georgia