

BREWSTER, CHRISTOPHER L GS-12 USAF ACC 355 CES/CEIE

To: WAKEFIELD, KEVIN L GS-11 USAF ACC 355 CES/CEIE
Cc: TORIELLO, MICHAEL R GS-14 USAF ACC 355 CES/CD; DEUTSCH, KARL R GS-13 USAF ACC 355 CES/CEI; GERMANOS, NICHOLAS M GS-13 USAF ACC 355 CES/CEN; BARBIONI, JOSEPH E JR MSgt USAF ACC 355 WG/XP
Subject: AFRC F-35A EIS

ALCON

I am writing this down so as not to forget and to at least have an e-mail referencing a discussion that I just had from our AFRC F-35A EIS contractor working all of the documents.

According to Leidos (CONTR), the AF has decided to delay the AFRC F-35A EIS (Op 7) due to some discrepancies and concerns over F-35 flight elevations and afterburner usage. When this process started, the contractor was given direction to evaluate the F-35's noise impact based on 5% AB and IAW BMGR and Sells MOA ceiling/floor restrictions. Now that HAF and AFLOA have seen the T/TSNS proposal for the Arizona Regional Airspace Optimization EIS (including the Tombstone MOA Redesign), AFLOA requested that additional studies be performed with different AB usages (10%, 25%, 50%, etc) along with different elevation patterns (LATNs).

The delay is approximated from 4-6 months, so any Public Hearings at DM would likely occur some time next spring. The ANG (Ops 5 & 6) F-35 EIS Public Hearings are scheduled in the next week or so. Those surveys/studies were also based on 5% AB, but HAF has not made a decision to postpone those hearings as of now. It's all just a big Charlie Foxtrot that could have been addressed over a year ago when we all questioned the validity of only using 5% AB.

This will delay or at least complicate all of our other NEPA actions in the near future.

More to come.

Christopher L. Brewster, PE
Chief, Environmental Compliance
Installation Management Flight
Davis-Monthan AFB, 355 CES/CEI
3775 S. Fifth Street
Tucson, AZ 85707
DSN: 228-7201
Comm: (520) 228-7201
Mobile: (423) 619-4484
christopher.brewster@us.af.mil