environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Kevin Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

Pima County Board of Supervisors
130 West Congress Street, 11th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

To Whom It May Concern:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program.*

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National

Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion

around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Rowdy Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

Patrick Madigan
Field Director, Tucson Field Office
US Bureau of Land Management
12661 E. Broadway Boulevard
Tucson, AZ 85748-7208

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Madigan:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program.*

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site

Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Rowdy Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

Peter Steere
Cultural Resources Manager
Tohono O'odham Nation
Building 49, Main Street
Sells, AZ 85634

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Steere:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program.*

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site

Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Rowdy Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

Shela McFarlin
Special Assistant for International Programs
USDOI Bureau of Land Management
12661 East Broadway Boulevard
Tucson, AZ 85748

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Ms. McFarlin:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program.*

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site

Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Rowdy Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

Steve Owens
Director
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Owens:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program.*

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site

Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Rowdy Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

Carl E. Burleson
Director, Office of Environment and Energy
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW Room 900W
Washington, DC 20591

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Burleson:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program.*

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site

Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Randy Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

Doug Duncan
Fish Biologist, FWS
201 N. Bonita, Suite 141
Tucson, AZ 85745

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Duncan:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program.*

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain

ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other

environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Rowdy Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

To Whom It May Concern:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program*.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain

ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other

environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Randy Celaus, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Arizona Game and Fish Department
WMHB – Project Evaluation Program
2221 West Greenway Road
Phoenix, AZ 85023

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

To Whom It May Concern:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program.*

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain

ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other

environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Rowdy Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

SHPO-2007-1248 (33613) MLR

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229
1300 Pennsylvania Ave
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Suite 7.5C

RECEIVED
JUL 03 2007
JM 7/3/07
ARIZONA STATE PARKS/S.H.P.O.

James Garrison
Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer
Arizona State Parks
1300 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Garrison:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program.*

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site

Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Rowdy Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

cc: Patricia Patterson, Environmental Program Manager

This NEPA submittal does not constitute consultation under Section 106 of the National Hist. Preservation Act. Provisions at 36 CFR Part 800.8 must be followed in order for this Office to accept NEPA documentation as Section 106 compliance consultation.

Jo Anne Medley
for SHPO
August 2, 2007

SHPO-2007-1362 (33641) MIR

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229
1300 Pennsylvania Ave Suite 7.5C
U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

RECEIVED
JUL 05 2007
JM 7/6/07
ARIZONA STATE PARKS/S.H.P.O.

Jo Anne Medley
Compliance Specialist/Archaeologist
State Historic Preservation Officer
Arizona State Parks
1300 Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Request for information in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Ms. Medley:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBInet Program Management Office, a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program.*

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is developing and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure that will secure the border by immediately detecting and identifying border entries, classifying the threat, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy a technology-based solution to decrease illegal border activities and deter and prevent illegal entry in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Wilcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the southwest are the Huachuca Mountains (adjacent to the Mexican border) and to the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor lies Altar, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBInet's proposed action would strengthen and support the Border Patrol's enforcement strategies. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement and enhance the effectiveness of existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies that would be utilized under this proposed action would enhance apprehension of IEs in the proximity of the border, which may result in a more compact patrol and enforcement area, and could allow for relocation of agents as necessary. The operational effectiveness of the Border Patrol would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operating.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. Illegal cross-border activity threatens public lands, destroys historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harms endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affects other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of Illegal cross-border activity is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site

Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with stakeholder input, engineering assessments, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* is seeking input from your organization regarding this proposed action to alleviate illegal border activities. SBI*net* is currently gathering data and input from state and local governmental agencies, departments, and bureaus that may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in this proposed action. Since your agency may have particular knowledge and expertise regarding potential environmental impacts from SBI*net*'s proposed action, your input and commentary are sought regarding the likely or anticipated environmental effects of this proposed action in and around the proposed project areas described above. Your response to this solicitation for input should include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements with which SBI*net* would have to comply during project siting, construction, and operation.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Please submit your comments within 30 days after receipt of this notice. Agencies are requested to indicate their applicable statutory responsibilities in connection with this proposed project when responding. Responses should be sent to: Michael Potter, Project Manager at (202) 344-1928 or Michael.B.Potter@cbp.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Rowly Adams, Deputy

for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

cc: Patricia Patterson, Environmental Program Manager

This NEPA submittal does not constitute consultation under Section 106 of the National Hist. Preservation Act. Provisions at 36 CFR Part 800.8 must be followed in order for this Office to accept NEPA documentation as Section 106 compliance consultation.

Jeanne Medley for SHPO
August 2, 2007

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Arizona State Office
One North Central Avenue, Suite 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4427
www.blm.gov/az/

1610 (910)

July 13, 2007

Mr. Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBInet
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
US Customs and Border Protection
Washington, DC 20229

RE: Letter requests for information in support of an environmental assessment for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based borders security system (SBInet) near Yuma and Tucson, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Evans:

This is in response to your two letters to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received July 3, 2007 regarding the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Secure Borders Initiative (SBI) Net project. You request information in support of two environmental assessments (EA) for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system for the Tucson and Yuma Sectors. You request information on: 1) likely to anticipated environmental effects of the proposed project and permitting; and 2) other requirements with which SBInet would have to comply. You indicate that the design phase for your proposal is planned for completion around fall 2007 and, pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007.

The BLM is very supportive of the mandates and responsibilities of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and especially the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) efforts along the international border. For some years, we have worked very closely with CBP USBP on the tactical infrastructure program and would like to be equally involved in the SBI and SBInet programs. To facilitate effective and timely coordination, we especially request that you work closely with affected BLM offices to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements and to obtain the necessary land use authorizations and, for some areas, to coordinate the Roosevelt Reservation strip that crosses some public lands but not all parcels.

The three geographical operational corridors you describe for the Tucson Sector are: the Douglas/Naco corridor (Douglas and Naco Stations) which includes the San Pedro Valley; the Nogales corridor (Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Stations); and the West

Desert corridor (Ajo, Tucson and Casa Grande Stations). The Yuma Sector as described, not only includes lands managed by the BLM in Arizona, but lands in Imperial, Riverside and Los Angeles counties managed by the BLM in California.

The extent of public lands managed by the BLM in Arizona includes 44 miles of border and 3.7 million acres spread from the east to the west boundaries. Therefore without further detailed questions, it is not effective to respond to your request in detail in this letter. Rather, you should contact individual offices (listed below) to ensure that both goals are met, especially to affirm the land status of public lands along the border and northward. Specialists from these offices have great understanding of the resources on public lands, know the access routes to specific areas, previous environmental reviews and consultations and are responsible for reviewing and approving environmental documents required for BLM land use authorizations.

If the proposed projects are on BLM managed lands, it is likely that you will need land use authorizations (permits) typically issued by the field offices. Field office specialists will need the specific project sites under consideration (preferably by township, range, section and subdivision) and project descriptions (e.g., description of proposed road maintenance or upgrades, installation of culverts, installation of foundations, remote video surveillance (RVS) technology, ground-penetrating radar, etc). For a right-of-way, you, will need to file an application and initiate a cost recovery agreement with BLM. In some areas such as Yuma, other agencies (Bureau of Reclamation) also exercise authorities requiring close coordination before BLM issues permits.

Typically in BLM, we provide details and resolve questions thorough a pre-application meeting between CBP/contractors and the affected field offices. This step can save significant time by streamlining the process, avoiding unnecessary NEPA documentation and minimizing confusion and misunderstandings. During that meeting, BLM offices can decide what levels of biological and cultural surveys are required and whether, for non-disturbing activities, a Right-of-Entry is needed for such surveys.

Offices for contacting and for the distribution of documents, including Arizona, New Mexico and California offices:

For overall coordination, in addition to myself:

Bureau of Land Management
Arizona State Office
One North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004-2203
Attn: Angela Mogel 602-417-9536

For the Naco/Douglas Corridor:

Bureau of Land Management
Safford Field Office
711 14th Avenue
Safford, AZ 85546-3321

Attn: Tom Schnell 928-348-4400

Bureau of Land Management
Tucson Field Office
12661 East Broadway
Tucson, AZ 85748-7208
Attn: Cindy Alvarez 520-258-7233

Bureau of Land Management
San Pedro Project Office
1763 Paseo San Luis
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
Attn: Bill Childress 520-439-6421

For the Nogales-Sonoita Corridor:
The above Tucson Field Office

For the West Desert Corridor:

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma Field Office
2555 East Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365-2240
Attn: Bruce Rittenhouse 928-317-3318

Bureau of Land Management
Lower Sonoran Field Office
21605 N. 7th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85027-2099
Attn: Kevin Harper 623-580-5500

For the Yuma Sector:
Yuma Field Office (above)

For California counties with BLM lands, please contact:
Bureau of Land Management
California Desert District Office
22835 Calle San Juan De Los Lagos
Moreno Valley, CA 92253
Attn: Greg Thomsen 951-697-5237

Bureau of Land Management
Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office
P.O. Box 581260
North Palm Springs, CA 92263
Attn: Janaye Byergo 858-451-1767

Bureau of Land Management
El Centro Field Office
1661 S. 4th Street
El Centro, CA 92243
Attn: Daniel Steward 760-337-4424

For New Mexico BLM-managed lands:
Bureau of Land Management
Las Cruces District Office
1800 Marquess St.
Las Cruces, NM 88005
Attn: Lori Allen 505 525-4454

Because of your proposed timeline, we urge you to meet very quickly with the affected field offices. Once we understand your project locations, we may delegate a lead office if needed to expedite the process.

Attached is a map which should aid you in determining which Arizona offices are affected. If you have any questions, please contact me: 520-624-0560; telefax 520-388-830; and, e-mail address is shela_mcfarlin@blm.gov. My mailing address is: Bureau of Land Management, Federal Building, 300 West Congress, 6V3, Tucson, Arizona 85701.

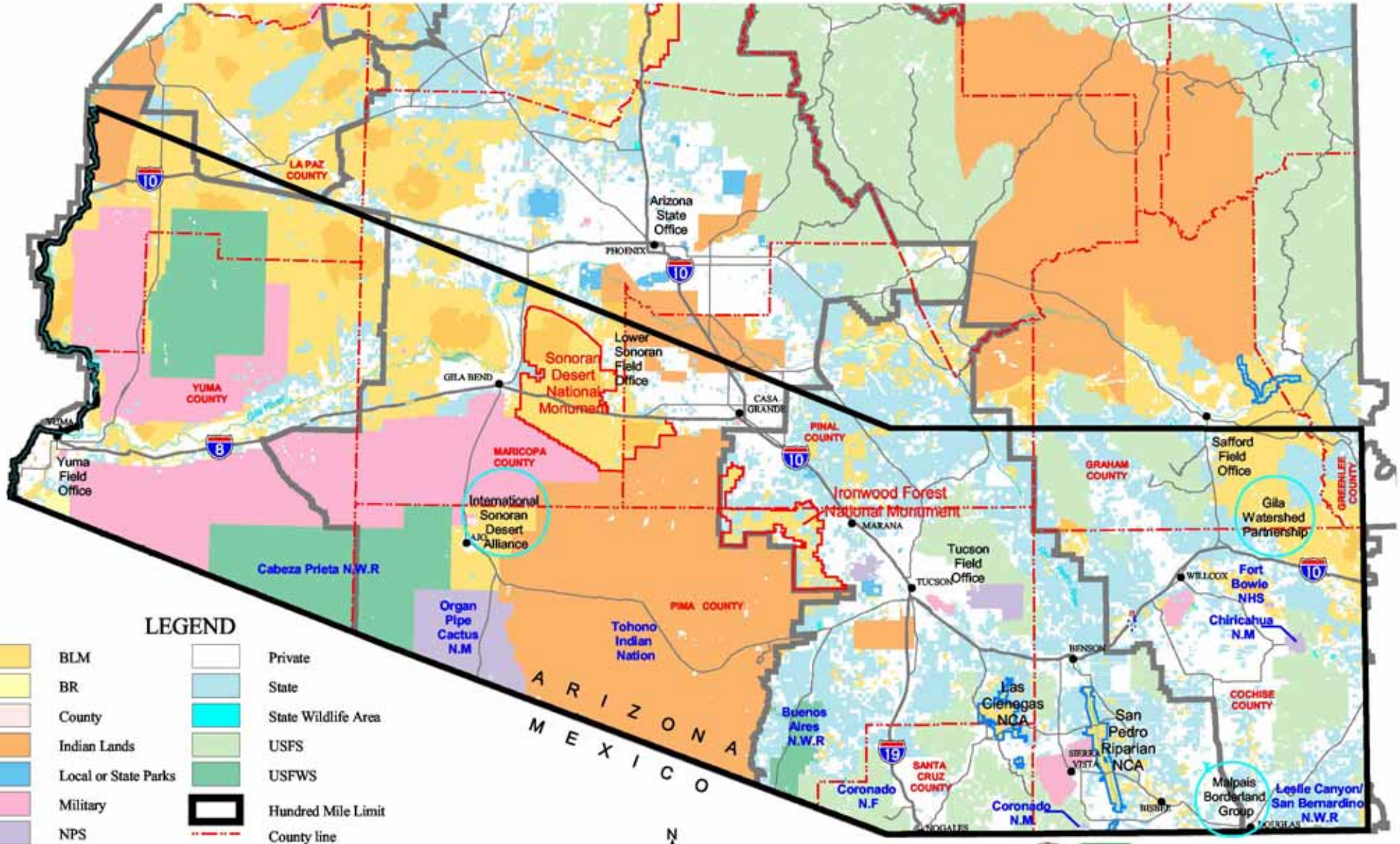
Sincerely,

/signed/

Shela McFarlin
Special Assistant for International Programs

Enclosure: AZ map

cc: Dan Boelsche, Project Manager Yuma Dan.J.Boelsche@cbp.dhs.gov
Michael Pottery, Project Manager Tucson Michael.B.Pottery@cbp.dhs.gov



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ARIZONA STATE OFFICE
MAPPING SCIENCES SECTION

March 21, 2006

Caution:
Land ownership data is derived from less accurate data than the 1:24,000 scale base map. Therefore, land ownership may not be shown for parcels smaller than 40 acres, and land ownership lines may have a plotting error of 1/16 tp 1/8 inch.

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management of use of the data for purposes not intended by BLM.

The Arizona State Land Department and Bureau of Land Management make no warranties, implied or expressed, with respect to information shown on this map.

ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE

A NON-PROFIT FEDERATION OF OVER 250 ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETIES and 17,000 MEMBERS

To promote the science of astronomy
- By fostering astronomical education;
- By providing incentives for astronomical observation and research; and
- By assisting communication among amateur astronomical societies.

July 17, 2007

Robert L. Gent
Past-President
9201 Ward Parkway
Suite 100
Kansas City, MO 64114

Secure Border Initiative
Environmental Assessment Staff

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing you on behalf of the Astronomical League, a federation of more than 250 astronomical societies with nearly 17,000 members. At a recent annual conference, the League Council discussed the subject of light pollution, and we are unanimously dedicated to doing all we can to limit the problems. All our member societies are deeply concerned about excessive outdoor lighting and the adverse impacts from the US border fence.

We currently operate dozens of research grade astronomical observatories located very near the USA-Mexican border. Light pollution from your border fence could potentially impact many, if not all of these prime observing sites. We ask that you take the following actions to preserve the night skies of Southern Arizona and elsewhere along the border:

First, use only fully shielded lights. Second, use time controls and motion sensors wherever possible. Third, use only the right amount of light, not overkill. Recent newspaper photos have shown that some current border lighting uses fixtures with 1,000 watts each. This is excessive, a waste of money, and it is harmful to the environment.

Poor quality outdoor lighting impacts more than astronomers. Such obtrusive lighting also causes glare, light trespass, and wastes a great deal of energy. Current research also shows there is significant wildlife impact, too. Bad lighting reduces visibility, rather than enhancing our nighttime environment. Glare, for example, is a particular problem for our country's aging population.

By promoting responsible outdoor lighting, we can reduce energy waste, control glare, stop most of the obtrusive light trespass, improve visibility and safety, and preserve the beauty of our night skies. By controlling energy waste, we save dollars and reduce atmospheric pollution. Border security could be enhanced with a quality design. We hope you will support us in your security projects.

Thank you very much for your time and for considering this request. Please contact me at 520-378-2915 or RLGent1@aol.com, if I can be of any assistance.

Very Respectfully,

Robert L Gent

Robert L. Gent, Lt Col, USAF, Ret.

INTERNATIONAL DARK-SKY ASSOCIATION

SINCE 1988

"... TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE NIGHTTIME ENVIRONMENT AND OUR HERITAGE OF DARK SKIES THROUGH QUALITY OUTDOOR LIGHTING."

July 17, 2007

Dear SBInet Team Leaders,

I am writing on behalf of the International Dark-Sky Association and its more than 11,000 members from all 50 states and over 70 countries. All of our members are deeply concerned about the problems of light pollution. Consequently, we present these recommendations on US border security.

Lighting along the proposed 700 miles of double-layered fencing should be at a level that assists the U.S. Border Patrol in its duties while also remaining sensitive to the needs of astronomical research, wildlife habitat, resource conservation, and human health. Methods and technologies are currently available to achieve these mutual goals.

We advocate the use of fully shielded lighting fixtures where needed, not stadium lighting; rational lighting levels that support adaptation of the eye in the nighttime environment; the inclusion of ground-based motion sensors whenever possible; infrared cameras, thermal imaging systems, and other night vision equipment that are known to work well in security critical environments.

We do not support outdoor lighting that is unnecessary and unproductive; outdoor lighting that produces glare and that interferes with adaptation of the eye in the nighttime environment; and outdoor lighting that wastes energy and natural resources and contributes to carbon dioxide emissions and global warming.

IDA believes that along the border could be enhanced while protecting astronomy and the surrounding communities – human and environmental. That said, caution must be used in any boarder lighting designs. By promoting responsible outdoor lighting, we can reduce energy waste, control glare, stop most obtrusive light trespass, improve visibility and safety, and preserve the beauty of our night skies. Solutions to the problems of light pollution are currently available, and everyone, especially the public, benefits from them.

If we can be of any assistance in your efforts to control light pollution, we are willing and able to help. Again, thank you for your efforts on this important issue.

Respectfully,

Robert L Gent

Robert L. Gent
President, Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DAVID L. CRAWFORD, PH.D.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
ROBERT L. GENT
SIERRA VISTA, AZ

VICE PRESIDENT
CHRISTIAN K. MONRAD
MONRAD ENGINEERING
TUCSON, AZ

SECRETARY/TREASURER
MARY L. CRAWFORD
TUCSON, AZ

J. KELLY BEATTY
EDITOR, *SKY & TELESCOPE*
CAMBRIDGE, MA

JAMES ROBERT BENYA
BENYA LIGHTING DESIGN
WEST LINN, OR

DAN BROCIOUS
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
WHIPPLE OBSERVATORY
AMADO, AZ

NANCY CLANTON
CLANTON & ASSOCIATES
BOULDER, CO

PAUL ERICSON
SYSKA HENNESSY GROUP
SAN DIEGO, CA

CHRISTIAN B. LUGINBUHL
U.S. NAVAL OBSERVATORY
FLAGSTAFF, AZ

TERRY K. MCGOWAN
LIGHTING IDEAS, INC.
CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OH

DEREK MCNALLY, PH.D.
UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE
HATFIELD, UK

DAVID PENASA
UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

LEO SMITH
CAPITAL VENTURES GROUP
SUFFIELD, CT

MALCOLM SMITH, PH.D.
AURA OBSERVATORY
LA SERENA, CHILE

CHRISTOPHER W. WALKER
WALKER & COMPANY
RESTON, VA

REGINALD WILSON
LIGHTING ANALYSIS & DESIGN
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

SECTIONS/AFFILIATES
ARGENTINA
AUSTRALIA
AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
CANADA
CHILE
CZECH REPUBLIC
FRANCE
GERMANY
GREECE
IRELAND
ITALY
JAPAN
MALTA
NETHERLANDS
SLOVENIA
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
UNITED KINGDOM
USA: 39 SECTIONS/AFFILIATES

3225 NORTH FIRST AVENUE TUCSON, AZ 85719-2103
520-293-3198 520-293-3192 FAX WWW.DARKSKY.ORG EMAIL: IDA@DARKSKY.ORG

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
TUCSON PROJECT OFFICE
5205 EAST COMANCHE STREET
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85707

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

July 17, 2007

Office of the Chief
Regulatory Division

Mr. Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20229

File Number: SPL-2007-00856-MB

Dear Mr. Evans:

I am responding to your letter undated but received on July 3, 2007 regarding the construction of a technology-based border security system in the Tucson Sector along the international border of Arizona.

The Corps of Engineers regulates the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the U.S. including wetlands under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Examples of activities which require a permit from the Corps under Section 404 include but are not limited to placing bank protection; temporary or permanent stockpiling of excavated material; grading; mechanized landclearing; filling in of wetlands or watercourses; constructing weirs, dikes, diversions, dams, grade control structures; constructing approach fills, and discharging dredged and/or fill material into waters of the U.S. and wetlands as part of any other activity.

At this time, it is unclear as to whether any of the proposed border security measures discussed in your letter will require a Section 404 permit. We would require more detailed information such as the siting of specific facilities and encourage CBP to avoid all waters of the U.S./wetlands in siting all facilities to the maximum extent possible. Regulated ephemeral washes exist across the entire border of Arizona and even road crossings of those which are jurisdictional under Section 404 will require a permit from the Corps. We would appreciate receiving the draft Environmental Assessment. We are also available to meet with you and/or your consultants to discuss the specifics of the project and permitting requirements once you have the alignment and other details better defined.

If you have questions please contact me at (520) 584-1684.

Sincerely,

Marjorie E. Blaine
Senior Project Manager
Arizona Branch, Regulatory Division

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

SEP 13 2007

The Honorable Delia Carlisle, Chairperson
ATTN: Nancy Nelson, Cultural Resource Manager
Ak-Chin Indian Community
42507 W. Peters & Nail Rd
Maricopa, AZ 85239

SUBJECT: Section 106 Project Re-Initiation in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona

Dear Chairperson Carlisle:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* System Program Office (SPO), a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program* and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure U.S. borders, reduce illegal cross border activity, and transform border control through technology and infrastructure. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is designing, developing, and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure to secure the border by detecting and identifying border entries, classifying threats, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy technology-based solutions to deter and prevent illegal entries in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Border Patrol Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco,

Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Willcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor is Alter, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBI*net's* proposed action would strengthen and support the CBP's enforcement strategies and operations in this AOR. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies to be utilized under this proposed action would provide situational awareness to CBP agents for improved detection, identification, classification, tracking, and expedited interdiction of illegal cross-border activities and Illegal Entrants (IEs) in the proximity of the border. The operational effectiveness of CBP would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operational.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. IEs passing through border areas threaten public lands, destroy historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harm endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affect other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of IEs is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting

technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with the favorable or unfavorable acceptance of land owners, terrain, natural and man-made features, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

We look forward to hearing any concerns you may have regarding known sacred sites or other traditional cultural properties within the proposed project area.

Cultural resource pedestrian surveys are required to determine the existence of cultural resources within the pertinent project areas. Once those surveys have taken place, a report will be produced and sent to you for review and comment and at that time we will ask the State Historic Preservation Officer for concurrence with the appropriate determinations.

If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager at (202) 344-1131, or Michael Potter, Project Manager, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5, Washington, DC 20229 at (202) 344-1928.

Sincerely,

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Copy furnished:

Michael Potter, Project Manager
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 7.5
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

SEP 13 2007

The Honorable Herminia Frias, Chairperson
ATTN: Ms. Amalia Reyes
Pascua Yaqui Tribe
7474 S. Camino de Oeste
Tucson, AZ 85746

SUBJECT: Section 106 Project Re-Initiation in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona

Dear Chairperson Frias:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* System Program Office (SPO), a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program* and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure U.S. borders, reduce illegal cross border activity, and transform border control through technology and infrastructure. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is designing, developing, and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure to secure the border by detecting and identifying border entries, classifying threats, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy technology-based solutions to deter and prevent illegal entries in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Border Patrol Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco,

Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Willcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor is Alter, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBI*net's* proposed action would strengthen and support the CBP's enforcement strategies and operations in this AOR. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies to be utilized under this proposed action would provide situational awareness to CBP agents for improved detection, identification, classification, tracking, and expedited interdiction of illegal cross-border activities and Illegal Entrants (IEs) in the proximity of the border. The operational effectiveness of CBP would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operational.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. IEs passing through border areas threaten public lands, destroy historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harm endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affect other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of IEs is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting

technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with the favorable or unfavorable acceptance of land owners, terrain, natural and man-made features, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

We look forward to hearing any concerns you may have regarding known sacred sites or other traditional cultural properties within the proposed project area.

Cultural resource pedestrian surveys are required to determine the existence of cultural resources within the pertinent project areas. Once those surveys have taken place, a report will be produced and sent to you for review and comment and at that time we will ask the State Historic Preservation Officer for concurrence with the appropriate determinations.

If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager at (202) 344-1131, or Michael Potter, Project Manager, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5, Washington, DC 20229 at (202) 344-1928.

Sincerely,

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Copy furnished:

Michael Potter, Project Manager
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 7.5
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

SEP 13 2007

The Honorable Ned Norris, Chairman
ATTN: Mr. Peter Steere, Cultural Resource Program Manager
Tohono O'odham Nation
Main Tribal Building
Sells, AZ 85634

SUBJECT: Section 106 Project Re-Initiation in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona

Dear Chairman Norris:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* System Program Office (SPO), a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program* and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure U.S. borders, reduce illegal cross border activity, and transform border control through technology and infrastructure. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is designing, developing, and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure to secure the border by detecting and identifying border entries, classifying threats, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy technology-based solutions to deter and prevent illegal entries in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Border Patrol Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco,

Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Willcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor is Alter, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBI*net's* proposed action would strengthen and support the CBP's enforcement strategies and operations in this AOR. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies to be utilized under this proposed action would provide situational awareness to CBP agents for improved detection, identification, classification, tracking, and expedited interdiction of illegal cross-border activities and Illegal Entrants (IEs) in the proximity of the border. The operational effectiveness of CBP would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operational.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. IEs passing through border areas threaten public lands, destroy historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harm endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affect other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of IEs is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting

technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with the favorable or unfavorable acceptance of land owners, terrain, natural and man-made features, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

We look forward to hearing any concerns you may have regarding known sacred sites or other traditional cultural properties within the proposed project area.

Cultural resource pedestrian surveys are required to determine the existence of cultural resources within the pertinent project areas. Once those surveys have taken place, a report will be produced and sent to you for review and comment and at that time we will ask the State Historic Preservation Officer for concurrence with the appropriate determinations.

If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager at (202) 344-1131, or Michael Potter, Project Manager, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5, Washington, DC 20229 at (202) 344-1928.

Sincerely,

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Copy furnished:

Michael Potter, Project Manager
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 7.5
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

SEP 13 2007

The Honorable Wendsler Nosie, Sr., Chairman
ATTN: Ms. Vernelda J. Grant
San Carlos Tribal Council
San Carlos Avenue
San Carlos, AZ 85550

SUBJECT: Section 106 Project Re-Initiation in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona

Dear Chairman Nosie:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* System Program Office (SPO), a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program* and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure U.S. borders, reduce illegal cross border activity, and transform border control through technology and infrastructure. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is designing, developing, and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure to secure the border by detecting and identifying border entries, classifying threats, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy technology-based solutions to deter and prevent illegal entries in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Border Patrol Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco,

Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Willcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor is Alter, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBI*net's* proposed action would strengthen and support the CBP's enforcement strategies and operations in this AOR. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies to be utilized under this proposed action would provide situational awareness to CBP agents for improved detection, identification, classification, tracking, and expedited interdiction of illegal cross-border activities and Illegal Entrants (IEs) in the proximity of the border. The operational effectiveness of CBP would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operational.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. IEs passing through border areas threaten public lands, destroy historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harm endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affect other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of IEs is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting

technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with the favorable or unfavorable acceptance of land owners, terrain, natural and man-made features, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

We look forward to hearing any concerns you may have regarding known sacred sites or other traditional cultural properties within the proposed project area.

Cultural resource pedestrian surveys are required to determine the existence of cultural resources within the pertinent project areas. Once those surveys have taken place, a report will be produced and sent to you for review and comment and at that time we will ask the State Historic Preservation Officer for concurrence with the appropriate determinations.

If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager at (202) 344-1131, or Michael Potter, Project Manager, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5, Washington, DC 20229 at (202) 344-1928.

Sincerely,

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Copy furnished:

Michael Potter, Project Manager
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 7.5
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

SEP 13 2007

The Honorable Ronnie Lupe, Chairman
ATTN: Mr. Mark Atalha, THPO
White Mountain Apache Tribal Council
202 East Walnut Street
Whiteriver, AZ 85941

SUBJECT: Section 106 Project Re-Initiation in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona

Dear Chairman Lupe:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* System Program Office (SPO), a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program* and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure U.S. borders, reduce illegal cross border activity, and transform border control through technology and infrastructure. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is designing, developing, and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure to secure the border by detecting and identifying border entries, classifying threats, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy technology-based solutions to deter and prevent illegal entries in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Border Patrol Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco,

Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Willcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor is Alter, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBI*net's* proposed action would strengthen and support the CBP's enforcement strategies and operations in this AOR. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies to be utilized under this proposed action would provide situational awareness to CBP agents for improved detection, identification, classification, tracking, and expedited interdiction of illegal cross-border activities and Illegal Entrants (IEs) in the proximity of the border. The operational effectiveness of CBP would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operational.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. IEs passing through border areas threaten public lands, destroy historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harm endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affect other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of IEs is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting

technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with the favorable or unfavorable acceptance of land owners, terrain, natural and man-made features, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

We look forward to hearing any concerns you may have regarding known sacred sites or other traditional cultural properties within the proposed project area.

Cultural resource pedestrian surveys are required to determine the existence of cultural resources within the pertinent project areas. Once those surveys have taken place, a report will be produced and sent to you for review and comment and at that time we will ask the State Historic Preservation Officer for concurrence with the appropriate determinations.

If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager at (202) 344-1131, or Michael Potter, Project Manager, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5, Washington, DC 20229 at (202) 344-1928.

Sincerely,

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Copy furnished:

Michael Potter, Project Manager
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 7.5
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

SEP 13 2007

The Honorable Joni Ramos, President
ATTN: Ms. Dezbah Hatathli, Cultural Programs Supervisor
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
10005 East Osborn Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

SUBJECT: Section 106 Project Re-Initiation in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona

Dear President Ramos:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* System Program Office (SPO), a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program* and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure U.S. borders, reduce illegal cross border activity, and transform border control through technology and infrastructure. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is designing, developing, and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure to secure the border by detecting and identifying border entries, classifying threats, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy technology-based solutions to deter and prevent illegal entries in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Border Patrol Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco,

Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Willcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor is Alter, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBI*net's* proposed action would strengthen and support the CBP's enforcement strategies and operations in this AOR. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies to be utilized under this proposed action would provide situational awareness to CBP agents for improved detection, identification, classification, tracking, and expedited interdiction of illegal cross-border activities and Illegal Entrants (IEs) in the proximity of the border. The operational effectiveness of CBP would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operational.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. IEs passing through border areas threaten public lands, destroy historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harm endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affect other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of IEs is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting

technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with the favorable or unfavorable acceptance of land owners, terrain, natural and man-made features, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

We look forward to hearing any concerns you may have regarding known sacred sites or other traditional cultural properties within the proposed project area.

Cultural resource pedestrian surveys are required to determine the existence of cultural resources within the pertinent project areas. Once those surveys have taken place, a report will be produced and sent to you for review and comment and at that time we will ask the State Historic Preservation Officer for concurrence with the appropriate determinations.

If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager at (202) 344-1131, or Michael Potter, Project Manager, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5, Washington, DC 20229 at (202) 344-1928.

Sincerely,

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Copy furnished:

Michael Potter, Project Manager
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 7.5
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

SEP 13 2007

The Honorable William Rhodes, Governor
ATTN: Mr. Barnaby V. Lewis
Gila River Indian Community
Cultural Resources Management Program
315 W. Casa Blanca Rd.
Sacaton, AZ 85247

SUBJECT: Section 106 Project Re-Initiation in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona

Dear Governor Rhodes:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* System Program Office (SPO), a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program* and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure U.S. borders, reduce illegal cross border activity, and transform border control through technology and infrastructure. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is designing, developing, and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure to secure the border by detecting and identifying border entries, classifying threats, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy technology-based solutions to deter and prevent illegal entries in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Border Patrol Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco,

Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Willcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor is Alter, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBI*net's* proposed action would strengthen and support the CBP's enforcement strategies and operations in this AOR. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies to be utilized under this proposed action would provide situational awareness to CBP agents for improved detection, identification, classification, tracking, and expedited interdiction of illegal cross-border activities and Illegal Entrants (IEs) in the proximity of the border. The operational effectiveness of CBP would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operational.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. IEs passing through border areas threaten public lands, destroy historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harm endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affect other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of IEs is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting

technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with the favorable or unfavorable acceptance of land owners, terrain, natural and man-made features, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

We look forward to hearing any concerns you may have regarding known sacred sites or other traditional cultural properties within the proposed project area.

Cultural resource pedestrian surveys are required to determine the existence of cultural resources within the pertinent project areas. Once those surveys have taken place, a report will be produced and sent to you for review and comment and at that time we will ask the State Historic Preservation Officer for concurrence with the appropriate determinations.

If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager at (202) 344-1131, or Michael Potter, Project Manager, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5, Washington, DC 20229 at (202) 344-1928.

Sincerely,

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Copy furnished:

Michael Potter, Project Manager
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 7.5
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

SEP 13 2007

The Honorable Wayne Taylor, Jr., Chairman
ATTN: Mr. Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma
Hopi Tribal Council
Main Street
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

SUBJECT: Section 106 Project Re-Initiation in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona

Dear Chairman Taylor:

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* System Program Office (SPO), a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program* and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure U.S. borders, reduce illegal cross border activity, and transform border control through technology and infrastructure. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is designing, developing, and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure to secure the border by detecting and identifying border entries, classifying threats, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy technology-based solutions to deter and prevent illegal entries in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated as the Tucson Border Patrol Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco,

Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Willcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor is Alter, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBI*net's* proposed action would strengthen and support the CBP's enforcement strategies and operations in this AOR. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies to be utilized under this proposed action would provide situational awareness to CBP agents for improved detection, identification, classification, tracking, and expedited interdiction of illegal cross-border activities and Illegal Entrants (IEs) in the proximity of the border. The operational effectiveness of CBP would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operational.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. IEs passing through border areas threaten public lands, destroy historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harm endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affect other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of IEs is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting

technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with the favorable or unfavorable acceptance of land owners, terrain, natural and man-made features, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

We look forward to hearing any concerns you may have regarding known sacred sites or other traditional cultural properties within the proposed project area.

Cultural resource pedestrian surveys are required to determine the existence of cultural resources within the pertinent project areas. Once those surveys have taken place, a report will be produced and sent to you for review and comment and at that time we will ask the State Historic Preservation Officer for concurrence with the appropriate determinations.

If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager at (202) 344-1131, or Michael Potter, Project Manager, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5, Washington, DC 20229 at (202) 344-1928.

Sincerely,

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Copy furnished:

Michael Potter, Project Manager
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 7.5
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

SEP 13 2007

Mr. James Garrison, State Historic Preservation Officer
ATTN: Ms. Joanne Medley
Arizona State Parks
1300 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

SUBJECT: Section 106 Project Re-Initiation in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona. **Ref: SHPO-2007-1248/1362 (33613/33641)**

Dear Mr. Garrison:

In response to your stamped comment of our non-consultation under Section 106, dated August 2, 2007 for our letter, and the above-mentioned reference number, the following will serve as our re-initiation of the Section 106 compliance for the project noted above.

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* System Program Office (SPO), a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program* and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure U.S. borders, reduce illegal cross border activity, and transform border control through technology and infrastructure. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is designing, developing, and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure to secure the border by detecting and identifying border entries, classifying threats, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy technology-based solutions to deter and prevent illegal entries in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated

as the Tucson Border Patrol Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Willcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor is Alter, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBI*net's* proposed action would strengthen and support the CBP's enforcement strategies and operations in this AOR. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies to be utilized under this proposed action would provide situational awareness to CBP agents for improved detection, identification, classification, tracking, and expedited interdiction of illegal cross-border activities and Illegal Entrants (IEs) in the proximity of the border. The operational effectiveness of CBP would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operational.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. IEs passing through border areas threaten public lands, destroy historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harm endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affect other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of IEs is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with the favorable or unfavorable acceptance of land owners, terrain, natural and man-made features, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/ Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Cultural resource pedestrian surveys are required to determine the existence of cultural resources within the pertinent project areas. Once those surveys have taken place, a report will be produced and sent to you for review and comment and at that time we will ask you for concurrence with the appropriate determinations.

If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience E. Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager at (202) 344-1131, or Michael Potter, Project Manager, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5, Washington, DC 20229 at (202) 344-1928.

Sincerely,

Kourly Adams for

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Copy furnished:

Michael Potter, Project Manager
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 7.5
Washington, DC 20229

S.H.P.O.- 2007-1248 (34277)
S.H.P.O.- 2007-1362 (34278)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

SEP 13 2007

RECEIVED
SEP 14 2007
ARIZONA STATE PARKS/S.H.P.O

Mr. James Garrison, State Historic Preservation Officer
ATTN: Ms. Joanne Medley
Arizona State Parks
1300 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

SUBJECT: Section 106 Project Re-Initiation in support of an Environmental Assessment for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona. **Ref: SHPO-2007-1248/1362 (33613/33641)**

Dear Mr. Garrison:

In response to your stamped comment of our non-consultation under Section 106, dated August 2, 2007 for our letter, and the above-mentioned reference number, the following will serve as our re-initiation of the Section 106 compliance for the project noted above.

The Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* System Program Office (SPO), a program in the Commissioner's Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system that will cover a portion of the international border in Arizona. The EA will be prepared in compliance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. 1500 et seq., and Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1 – Environmental Planning Program* and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

SBI is a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure U.S. borders, reduce illegal cross border activity, and transform border control through technology and infrastructure. SBI*net* is the component of SBI that is designing, developing, and implementing technology and tactical infrastructure to secure the border by detecting and identifying border entries, classifying threats, and implementing effective and efficient resolution. For this proposed action, SBI*net* plans to design, develop, and deploy technology-based solutions to deter and prevent illegal entries in the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

While no final decisions have been made, the proposed action to be described and analyzed in an EA would cover a portion of the United States-Mexico border designated

as the Tucson Border Patrol Sector. The sector is comprised of twelve Arizona counties, and contains eight Border Patrol Stations (Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonoita, Tucson, and Willcox). The Sector is divided into three geographic operational corridors.

The Douglas/Naco corridor is adjacent to the New Mexico state line. The San Bernadino Valley is bordered on the east by the Guadalupe and Peloncillo Mountain ranges and to the west by the Chiricahua Mountains, within the Coronado National Forest. The San Pedro Valley is in the western portion of the Douglas-Naco Corridor. The San Pedro Valley's eastern border is the Dragoon and Mule Mountain ranges. To the west are the Whetstone Mountains.

The Nogales corridor encompasses the Sonoita and Nogales Border Patrol Station areas of operation. A significant amount of illegal alien traffic attempts to enter the United States through this corridor.

The West Desert corridor consists of the Ajo, Tucson, and Casa Grande Border Patrol Stations and begins 18 miles east of the Sasabe Port of Entry and heads west to the Tucson county line. The West Desert corridor also encompasses Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. To the south of the West Desert corridor is Alter, Sonora, Mexico. An existing infrastructure of ranch roads leading north to or near the international boundary line makes this area attractive to illegal entrants (IE).

SBI*net's* proposed action would strengthen and support the CBP's enforcement strategies and operations in this AOR. The technology components (communication towers, ground sensors, cameras, and other electronic surveillance, communication, and detection equipment) that would be a part of this proposed action are intended to supplement existing tactical infrastructure such as fencing, vehicle barriers, and roads near the United States – Mexico border. The technologies to be utilized under this proposed action would provide situational awareness to CBP agents for improved detection, identification, classification, tracking, and expedited interdiction of illegal cross-border activities and Illegal Entrants (IEs) in the proximity of the border. The operational effectiveness of CBP would be enhanced by increased surveillance capabilities once the technologies are installed and operational.

The need for this proposed action is to decrease illegal border activities in the Tucson Sector. Not only does illegal border activity have direct and indirect costs for all U.S. citizens, it has environmental costs as well. IEs have contributed heavily to the destruction of native vegetation and left litter throughout the Tucson Sector. IEs passing through border areas threaten public lands, destroy historic and cultural structures and artifacts, harm endangered plant and animal species, and adversely affect other sensitive resources. Additionally, vehicles used by smugglers and IEs are abandoned in national parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. Dealing with the detrimental effects of IEs is an ever-increasing burden on Federal and State land managers and private landowners.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) of this proposed action will be defined through the identification of a range of areas within which communications towers and supporting technological components may be placed, accounting for radio frequency connectivity requirements between towers, end users, and a central communications location. Site Selection Criteria will be applied to assess site feasibility, analyze frequency availability, and balance it with the favorable or unfavorable acceptance of land owners, terrain, natural and man-made features, and other environmental factors. The design phase of this proposal is planned for completion around Fall 2007. Pending acquisition of all required permits and approvals, construction initiation is planned for late 2007 and is expected to continue for approximately 12 months.

SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/ Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- Vehicular Transportation
- Air Resources/Air Quality
- Radiofrequency Emissions
- Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation
- Energy Use
- Utilities Infrastructure

Cultural resource pedestrian surveys are required to determine the existence of cultural resources within the pertinent project areas. Once those surveys have taken place, a report will be produced and sent to you for review and comment and at that time we will ask you for concurrence with the appropriate determinations.

If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience E. Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager at (202) 344-1131, or Michael Potter, Project Manager, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5, Washington, DC 20229 at (202) 344-1928.

Sincerely,

Kourly Adams for

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Thank you for the information. We look forward to continuing to consider and reviewing survey reports.

Anne Hedley
for SHPO
Oct. 19, 2007

TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
CULTURAL AFFAIRS PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 837 • SELLS, ARIZONA 85634
Telephone (520) 383-3622 • Fax (520) 383-3377

September 20, 2007

Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBInet, U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Washington, D.C. 20229

Dear Mr. Evans:

Thanks you for your letter of September 13, 2007, informing the Tohono O'odham Nation of a Section 106 project Re-Initiation in Support of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona.

The Cultural Affairs Office has a few comments:

1. Please make sure a draft EA is sent to the Tohono O'odham Nation with a minimum of 30 days allowed for comments to be returned.

2. Please send copies of the EA to the following individuals for review

   Ned Norris, Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation, P.O. Box 837, Sells, Arizona 85634

   Verlon Jose, Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation Legislative Council P.O. Box 837, Sells, Arizona 85634

   Marla Henry, Chairwoman, Chukut Kuk District, Tohono O'odham Nation P.O. Box 278, Sells, Arizona 85634

   Geneva Ramon, Chairwoman, Gu Vo District, Tohono O'odham Nation, P.O. Box 880 Ajo, Arizona 85321

   Selso Villegas, Director, Department of Natural Resources, Tohono O'odham Nation, P.O. Box 837, Sells, Arizona 85634

   Karen Howe, Ecologist, Wildlife and Vegetation Management, Department of Natural Resources, Tohono O'odham Nation P.O. Box 837, Sells, Arizona 85634

   Peter L. Steere, Manager, Cultural Affairs Office, Tohono O'odham Nation P.O. Box 837, Sells, Arizona 85634

3. The description of the proposed action is very general, please keep the Tohono O'odham Nation informed when you are able to designate a more specific area that will be covered by this EA.

4. On page 2 of your letter – paragraph 4 – line 4 "Alter" is spelled Altar

   Also in paragraph 4 - In your description of the West Desert corridor, you mention that the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, but neglect to mention that a significant portion of this land is taken up by the lands of the Tohono O'odham Nation (3 million acres – 65 + miles of border with Mexico. Hopefully this oversight will be addressed in the draft EA.

5. Please send copies of the design phase of the proposal to the Tohono O'odham Nation when completed in the Fall, 2007.

6. Since a significant portion of the geographic area of the EA will be on the lands of the Tohono O'odham Nation – the Cultural Affairs Office will have approval review on who will conduct the cultural resource inventories on Tohono O'odham Lands. The Wildlife and Vegetation Management Program should have approval review over who will conduct biological surveys on Tohono O'odham lands.

7. Any specific project areas for towers, fences etc. located on the Tohono O'odham Nation need to be reviewed and approved by the appropriate District government. The Chukut Kuk and Gu Vo Districts are the two districts of the Tohono O'odham Nation that border on Mexico.

8. Suggest that when your very general proposed action is better defined, more specific and detailed, that you contact the Chairman of the Tohono O'odham Nation to make arrangements for a presentation at a public meeting in Sells.

Sincerely,

Peter L. Steere

Peter L. Steere, Manager
Cultural Affairs Office
Tohono O'odham Nation
P.O. Box 837
Sells, Arizona 85634

cc:

Patience Patterson, Environmental Branch Manager
Michael Potter, Project Manager

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

Cultural Resources Office

42507 W Peters & Nall Road • Maricopa, Arizona 85239 • Telephone: (520) 568-1369 • Fax: (520) 568-1366

September 25, 2007

Patience Patterson
Environmental Branch Manager
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue
NW, Room 7.5
Washington, DC 20229

Re: EA for the siting, construction, and operation of a technology-based border security system near Tucson, Arizona

Dear Ms. Patterson:

The Ak-Chin Cultural Resources Office did receive a letter dated September 13, 2007 regarding the above-referenced undertaking. The purpose of this security system is to deter and prevent illegal entries into the Tucson Border Patrol Sector.

AT this time, our office will defer comments to the Tohono O'odham Nation for comments.

Thank you for informing our office about this undertaking. If you have any questions, please call me at (520) 568-1369. I can also be reached via email at: Ggilbert@ak-chin.nsn.us.

Sincerely,

Gary Gilbert

Gary Gilbert
Cultural Resources Technician II
Cultural Resources Office
Ak-Chin Indian Community

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Nogales-Rochlin Public Library
518 North Grand Avenue
Nogales, Arizona 85621

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBI*net* Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Stations Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Librarian:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requests that your library make available to the public the enclosed "*Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed SBInet Tucson West Project, Ajo, Tucson, Casa Grande, Nogales, and Sonoita Stations Area of Operation, U.S. Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona*, and the related Proposed *Finding of No Significant Impact*, for a 30-day public review period. Please place a copy of this letter and the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in a location that facilitates public review. The public comment period begins June 5, 2008 and all comments must be received no later than July 05, 2008.

In support of the Secure Border Initiative program, on June 5, 2008, CBP is publishing a Notice of Availability for the draft EA. The draft EA identifies and assesses the potential impacts associated with the proposed siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communications towers, vehicles, supporting infrastructure components, and technological improvements to existing facilities within the Tucson Sector. The location for the Proposed Action is along approximately 81 miles of the U.S./Mexico international border within the Tucson Sector, Arizona.

The enclosed document is also available to the public by:

(a) Downloading from the Internet at www.cbp.gov/sbi under the link *SBI NEPA Documents for Public Review and Comment*.

(b) E-mailing a request to TUCWEST*COMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*.

(c) Writing to Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(d) Faxing a request to (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson

Public comments on the enclosed documents, or questions about them, can be submitted by:

(a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*

(b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550.

I appreciate your assistance with our efforts to invite public involvement in our decision making process.

Sincerely,

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI*net*

Enclosure(s)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Sierra Vista Library
2600 E. Tacoma Street
Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBI*net* Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Stations Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Librarian:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requests that your library make available to the public the enclosed "*Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed SBInet Tucson West Project, Ajo, Tucson, Casa Grande, Nogales, and Sonoita Stations Area of Operation, U.S. Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona*, and the related Proposed *Finding of No Significant Impact*, for a 30-day public review period. Please place a copy of this letter and the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in a location that facilitates public review. The public comment period begins June 5, 2008 and all comments must be received no later than July 05, 2008.

In support of the Secure Border Initiative program, on June 5, 2008, CBP is publishing a Notice of Availability for the draft EA. The draft EA identifies and assesses the potential impacts associated with the proposed siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communications towers, vehicles, supporting infrastructure components, and technological improvements to existing facilities within the Tucson Sector. The location for the Proposed Action is along approximately 81 miles of the U.S./Mexico international border within the Tucson Sector, Arizona.

The enclosed document is also available to the public by:

(a) Downloading from the Internet at *www.cbp.gov/sbi* under the link *SBI NEPA Documents for Public Review and Comment*.

(b) E-mailing a request to TUCWEST*COMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*.

(c) Writing to Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(d) Faxing a request to (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson

Public comments on the enclosed documents, or questions about them, can be submitted by:

(a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*

(b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550.

I appreciate your assistance with our efforts to invite public involvement in our decision making process.

Sincerely,

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI*net*

Enclosure(s)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Casa Grande Public Library
449 North Dry Lake Street
Casa Grande, Arizona 85222

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBI*net* Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Stations Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Librarian:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requests that your library make available to the public the enclosed "*Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed SBInet Tucson West Project, Ajo, Tucson, Casa Grande, Nogales, and Sonoita Stations Area of Operation, U.S. Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona*, and the related Proposed *Finding of No Significant Impact*, for a 30-day public review period. Please place a copy of this letter and the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in a location that facilitates public review. The public comment period begins June 5, 2008 and all comments must be received no later than July 05, 2008.

In support of the Secure Border Initiative program, on June 5, 2008, CBP is publishing a Notice of Availability for the draft EA. The draft EA identifies and assesses the potential impacts associated with the proposed siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communications towers, vehicles, supporting infrastructure components, and technological improvements to existing facilities within the Tucson Sector. The location for the Proposed Action is along approximately 81 miles of the U.S./Mexico international border within the Tucson Sector, Arizona.

The enclosed document is also available to the public by:

(a) Downloading from the Internet at www.cbp.gov/sbi under the link *SBI NEPA Documents for Public Review and Comment*.

(b) E-mailing a request to TUCWEST*COMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*.

(c) Writing to Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(d) Faxing a request to (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson

Public comments on the enclosed documents, or questions about them, can be submitted by:

(a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*

(b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550.

I appreciate your assistance with our efforts to invite public involvement in our decision making process.

Sincerely,

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI*net*

Enclosure(s)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Salazar-Ajo Public Library
33 Plaza
Ajo, Arizona 85321

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBI*net* Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Stations Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Librarian:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requests that your library make available to the public the enclosed "*Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed SBInet Tucson West Project, Ajo, Tucson, Casa Grande, Nogales, and Sonoita Stations Area of Operation, U.S. Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona*, and the related Proposed *Finding of No Significant Impact*, for a 30-day public review period. Please place a copy of this letter and the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in a location that facilitates public review. The public comment period begins June 5, 2008 and all comments must be received no later than July 05, 2008.

In support of the Secure Border Initiative program, on June 5, 2008, CBP is publishing a Notice of Availability for the draft EA. The draft EA identifies and assesses the potential impacts associated with the proposed siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communications towers, vehicles, supporting infrastructure components, and technological improvements to existing facilities within the Tucson Sector. The location for the Proposed Action is along approximately 81 miles of the U.S./Mexico international border within the Tucson Sector, Arizona.

The enclosed document is also available to the public by:

(a) Downloading from the Internet at *www.cbp.gov/sbi* under the link *SBI NEPA Documents for Public Review and Comment*.

(b) E-mailing a request to TUCWEST*COMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*.

(c) Writing to Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(d) Faxing a request to (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson

Public comments on the enclosed documents, or questions about them, can be submitted by:

(a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*

(b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550.

I appreciate your assistance with our efforts to invite public involvement in our decision making process.

Sincerely,

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI*net*

Enclosure(s)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Caviglia-Arivaca Library
P.O. Box 668
Arivaca, Arizona 85601

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBI*net* Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Stations Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Librarian:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requests that your library make available to the public the enclosed "*Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed SBInet Tucson West Project, Ajo, Tucson, Casa Grande, Nogales, and Sonoita Stations Area of Operation, U.S. Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona*, and the related Proposed *Finding of No Significant Impact*, for a 30-day public review period. Please place a copy of this letter and the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in a location that facilitates public review. The public comment period begins June 5, 2008 and all comments must be received no later than July 05, 2008.

In support of the Secure Border Initiative program, on June 5, 2008, CBP is publishing a Notice of Availability for the draft EA. The draft EA identifies and assesses the potential impacts associated with the proposed siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communications towers, vehicles, supporting infrastructure components, and technological improvements to existing facilities within the Tucson Sector. The location for the Proposed Action is along approximately 81 miles of the U.S./Mexico international border within the Tucson Sector, Arizona.

The enclosed document is also available to the public by:

(a) Downloading from the Internet at www.cbp.gov/sbi under the link *SBI NEPA Documents for Public Review and Comment*.

(b) E-mailing a request to TUCWEST*COMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*.

(c) Writing to Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(d) Faxing a request to (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson

Public comments on the enclosed documents, or questions about them, can be submitted by:

(a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*

(b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550.

I appreciate your assistance with our efforts to invite public involvement in our decision making process.

Sincerely,

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI*net*

Enclosure(s)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Pima County Public Library
101 N. Stone Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBI*net* Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Stations Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Librarian:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requests that your library make available to the public the enclosed "*Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed SBInet Tucson West Project, Ajo, Tucson, Casa Grande, Nogales, and Sonoita Stations Area of Operation, U.S. Border Patrol, Tucson Sector, Arizona*, and the related Proposed *Finding of No Significant Impact*, for a 30-day public review period. Please place a copy of this letter and the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in a location that facilitates public review. The public comment period begins June 5, 2008 and all comments must be received no later than July 05, 2008.

In support of the Secure Border Initiative program, on June 5, 2008, CBP is publishing a Notice of Availability for the draft EA. The draft EA identifies and assesses the potential impacts associated with the proposed siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communications towers, vehicles, supporting infrastructure components, and technological improvements to existing facilities within the Tucson Sector. The location for the Proposed Action is along approximately 81 miles of the U.S./Mexico international border within the Tucson Sector, Arizona.

The enclosed document is also available to the public by:

(a) Downloading from the Internet at www.cbp.gov/sbi under the link *SBI NEPA Documents for Public Review and Comment*.

(b) E-mailing a request to TUCWEST*COMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*.

(c) Writing to Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(d) Faxing a request to (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson

Public comments on the enclosed documents, or questions about them, can be submitted by:

(a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*

(b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBI*net* Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B, Washington, D.C. 20229.

(c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550.

I appreciate your assistance with our efforts to invite public involvement in our decision making process.

Sincerely,

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI*net*

Enclosure(s)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Dawn and Shane Johnson and John C. and Tami Blount
6130 NW Michaelbrook Ln
Camas, WA 98607

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBI*net* Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Stations Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Dawn and Shane Johnson and John C. and Tami Blount:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the above-referenced document. The 30-day review period begins on June 5, 2008 and ends on July 5, 2008. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has prepared the draft EA to identify and assess the potential impacts associated with the proposed siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communications towers; vehicles, supporting infrastructure components; and technological improvements to existing facilities for the CBP along approximately 81 miles of the U.S./Mexico international border, within the Tucson Sector, Arizona (the Proposed Action).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to further CBP's ability to gain operational control of our nation's borders by providing 24-hour, year-round surveillance capabilities that will help deter illegal entry attempts into the United States, and enable CBP agents to detect, analyze, and rapidly respond to illegal cross border activity.

The draft EA was prepared in compliance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as amended (42 United State Code 4321, et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 1500 et seq., and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1, Environmental Planning Program.*

CBP invites your participation in this public process. Comments must be received by July 5, 2008. When submitting your comments, please include name and address, and identify comments as intended for the Tucson West Draft EA and Proposed FONSI. Comments on the enclosed documents, or questions about them, can be submitted by:

(a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*

(b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBInet Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B , Washington, D.C. 20229

(c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson.

Your prompt attention to this request is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Patterson via E-mail or the postal address listed above.

Sincerely,

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI*net*

Enclosure(s)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Robert O Barber, Mary O Barber and Brenda Barber Straw
268 East River Road #250
Tucson, AZ 85704

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBI*net* Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Stations Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Robert O Barber, Mary O Barber and Brenda Barber Straw:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the above-referenced document. The 30-day review period begins on June 5, 2008 and ends on July 5, 2008. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has prepared the draft EA to identify and assess the potential impacts associated with the proposed siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communications towers; vehicles, supporting infrastructure components; and technological improvements to existing facilities for the CBP along approximately 81 miles of the U.S./Mexico international border, within the Tucson Sector, Arizona (the Proposed Action).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to further CBP's ability to gain operational control of our nation's borders by providing 24-hour, year-round surveillance capabilities that will help deter illegal entry attempts into the United States, and enable CBP agents to detect, analyze, and rapidly respond to illegal cross border activity.

The draft EA was prepared in compliance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as amended (42 United State Code 4321, et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 1500 et seq., and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1, Environmental Planning Program.*

CBP invites your participation in this public process. Comments must be received by July 5, 2008. When submitting your comments, please include name and address, and identify comments as intended for the Tucson West Draft EA and Proposed FONSI. Comments on the enclosed documents, or questions about them, can be submitted by:

(a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*

(b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBInet Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B , Washington, D.C. 20229

(c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson.

Your prompt attention to this request is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Patterson via E-mail or the postal address listed above.

Sincerely,

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI*net*

Enclosure(s)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20229

U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Andrew and Nanci Spear
PO Box 35155
Juneau, AK 99803-5155

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBI*net* Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Stations Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Andrew and Nanci Spear:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the above-referenced document. The 30-day review period begins on June 5, 2008 and ends on July 5, 2008. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has prepared the draft EA to identify and assess the potential impacts associated with the proposed siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communications towers; vehicles, supporting infrastructure components; and technological improvements to existing facilities for the CBP along approximately 81 miles of the U.S./Mexico international border, within the Tucson Sector, Arizona (the Proposed Action).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to further CBP's ability to gain operational control of our nation's borders by providing 24-hour, year-round surveillance capabilities that will help deter illegal entry attempts into the United States, and enable CBP agents to detect, analyze, and rapidly respond to illegal cross border activity.

The draft EA was prepared in compliance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as amended (42 United State Code 4321, et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations at 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 1500 et seq., and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's *Management Directive 5100.1, Environmental Planning Program.*

CBP invites your participation in this public process. Comments must be received by July 5, 2008. When submitting your comments, please include name and address, and identify comments as intended for the Tucson West Draft EA and Proposed FONSI. Comments on the enclosed documents, or questions about them, can be submitted by:

(a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*

(b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBInet Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B , Washington, D.C. 20229

(c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson.

Your prompt attention to this request is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Patterson via E-mail or the postal address listed above.

Sincerely,

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI*net*

Enclosure(s)