

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,



 Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI^{net}



**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. SBInet 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, SBInet 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. 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. SBInet 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, SBInet 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).

SBI-net'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,



 Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI^{net}



**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. SBInet 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, SBInet 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).

SBI-net'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,



for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI^{net}



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. SBInet 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, SBInet 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).

SBI-net'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,



for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI^{net}



**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. SBInet 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, SBInet 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).

SBlnet'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,



 Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*



**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. SBInet 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, SBInet 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).

SBlnet'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,



for Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI^{net}



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. SBInet 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, SBInet 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).

SBI-net'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

 Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

5HPO-2007-1248 (33613) MR

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



1380 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. SBInet 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, SBInet 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).

SBlnet'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 Programs
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.

J. Anne Medley
JR SHPO
August 2, 2007

SHPO-2007-~~509~~ (33641)

1367

MIR

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



1300 Pennsylvania Ave
U.S. Customs and
Border Protection Suite
7.5C

RECEIVED

JUL 05 2007

Jm 7/16/07
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. SBInet 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, SBInet 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).

SBI net'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,

David 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 Historic 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.

*Denne Medley
for SHPO
August 2, 2007*



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, SBInet
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:

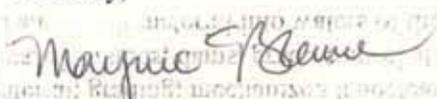
I am responding to your letter undated but received on July 3, 2007 regarding the construction of a technology-based border security system in the Tucson Sector along the international border of Arizona.

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. 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. 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. 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 Dagoon 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).

SBlnet'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. 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 Dagoon 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).

SBlnet'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. 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. 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).

SBlnef'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:

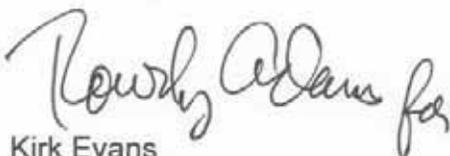
- Land Use and Zoning
- Geology/Soils/Geotechnical concerns
- Hydrology/Drainage/Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Water Resources/Water Quality
- Farmlands
- Noise
- Visual Quality
- Recreational Resources
- Biological Resources/Protected Species
- Cultural/Archaeological/Historic Resources
- 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. 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).

SBinet'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. 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 Dagoon 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).

SBlnet'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. 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).

SBlnet'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,



Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

Copy furnished:

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

SHPO- 2007-1248 (34277)

SHPO- 2007-1362 (34278)

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

RECEIVED

SEP 14 2007

ARIZONA STATE PARKS/S.H.P.O

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).

SBlnet'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.

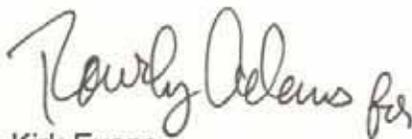
SBI*net* intends to evaluate the following potential environmental impact areas:

- 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,


Kirk Evans
Program Manager, SBI*net*

*Thank you for the information
I look forward to continuing
to consult and reviewing
survey reports.*

*Donna Hedley
FASHPD
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, SBI/ct, 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**

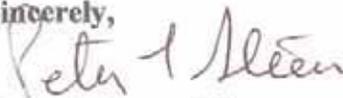
**Peter L. Steere, Manager, Cultural Affairs Office, Tohono O'odham Nation
P.O. Box 837, Sells, Arizona 85634**

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, 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

12507 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
Cultural Resources Technician II
Cultural Resources Office
Ak-Chin Indian Community

