



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Nygaard Family LLC
P.O. Box 636
Amado, AZ 85645

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

Dear Nygaard Family LLC:

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

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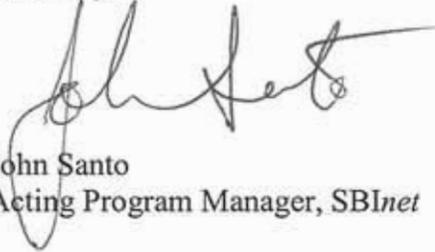
Nygaard Family LLC
Page 2

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- (a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*
- (b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBInet Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B , Washington, D.C. 20229
- (c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Santo", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Santa Fe Ranch and Cattle Co. LTD
P.O. Box 1386
Nogales, AZ 85628-1386

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

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SANTA FE RANCH & CATTLE CO LTD

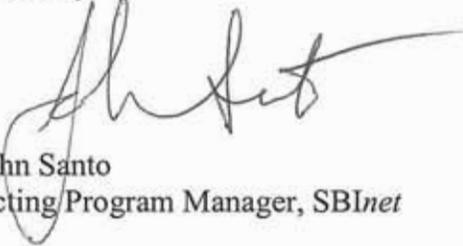
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Paul A. and Earlene H. Hathaway
164 Duquesne Road, Unit 5
Nogales, AZ 85621-9627

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

Dear Paul A. and Earlene H. Hathaway:

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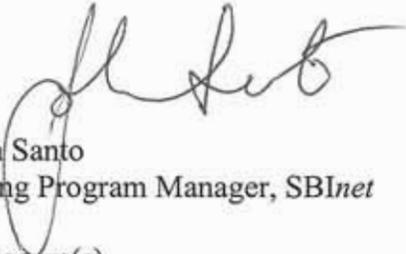
Mr. Paul A. and Earlene H. Hathaway
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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Lodestar Investments, LC
Andrew Abraham, Agent
702 East Osborn Road, #110
Phoenix, AZ 85014

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

Dear Lodestar Investments:

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Center for Biological Diversity
Attn: Greta Anderson
P.O. Box 710
Tucson, Arizona 85702

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

Dear Greta Anderson:

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Northern Jaguar Project
Attn: Craig Miller
110 Church Street, Suite 4292
Tucson, Arizona 85701

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

Dear Craig Miller:

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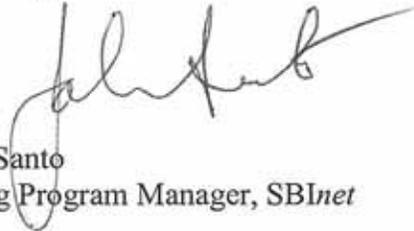
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John Santo
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Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Kitt Peak National Observatory
Attn: Dr. Buell Jannuzi
950 North Cherry Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85719

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

Dear Dr. Buell Jannuzi:

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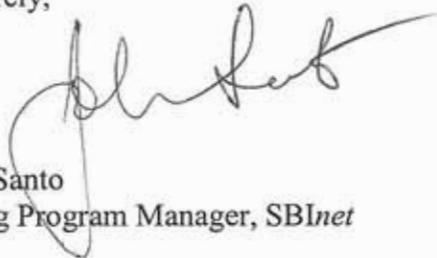
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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

Border Action Network
Attn: Jennifer Allen
P.O. Box 384
Tucson, Arizona 85702

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

Dear Jennifer Allen:

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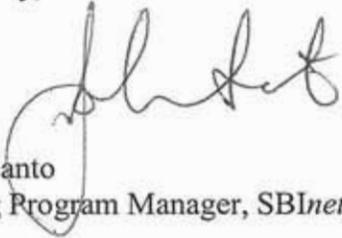
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U.S. Customs and
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MAY 30 2008

Jake Elkins
1309 East Lee Street
Tucson, Arizona 85719

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

Dear Jake Elkins:

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Mr. Jake Elkins
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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

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U.S. Customs and
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Vatican Observatory
Attn: Chris Corbally
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona 85721

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

Dear Chris Corbally:

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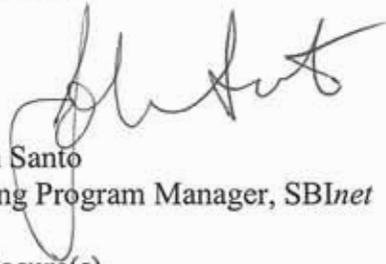
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Ellen Kurtz
HC 65 Box 7990
Tucson, Arizona 85645

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

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Ms. Ellen Kurtz
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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

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MAY 30 2008

Steev Hise
P.O. Box 1105
Tucson, Arizona 85702

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

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Santo", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Terry Siggins
3123 South Calle Pocar
Tucson, Arizona 85730

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

Dear Terry Siggins:

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

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Terry Siggins
Page 2

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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

David Redmond
7037 South Camino del Garanon
Tucson, Arizona 85747

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

Dear David Redmond:

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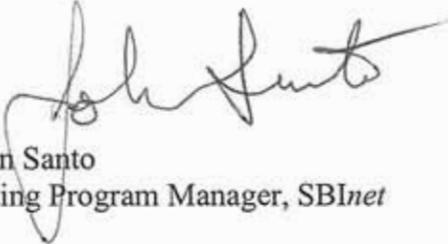
Mr. David Redmond
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Gary Haynes
1251 South Quail Point Street
Tucson, Arizona 85745

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

Dear Gary Haynes:

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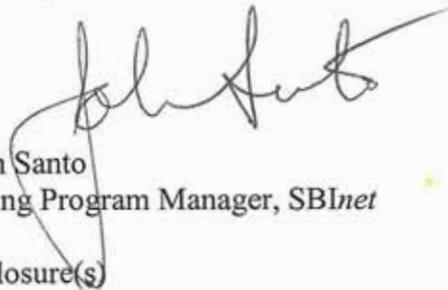
Mr. Gary Haynes
Page 2

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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

Cynthia Monuel
P.O. Box 1211
Tucson, Arizona 85634

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

Dear Cynthia Monuel:

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Ms. Cynthia Monuel
Page 2

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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Paul J. Winger
9131 North Overlook Drive
Tucson, Arizona 85704

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

Dear Paul J. Winger:

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Mr. Paul J. Winger
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Sierra Club
Attn: Sean Sullivan
758 North 5th Avenue, Suite 214
Tucson, Arizona 85705

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

Dear Sean Sullivan:

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

James Garrison
SHPO
Attn: Ms. JoAnne Medley
Arizona State Parks
1300 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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

Dear Mr. Garrison:

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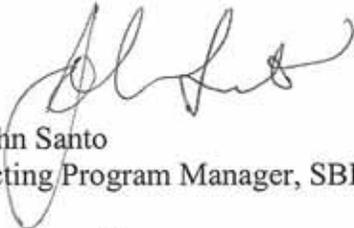
Mr. Garrison
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI^{net}

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

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

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

Dear Mr. Owens:

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Mr. Steve Owens
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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Mitch Ellis
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge
2321 West Royal Palm Road
Suite 103
Phoenix, Arizona 85021-4915

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

Dear Mr. Ellis:

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Mr. Mitch Ellis
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Benjamin Tuggle
Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwest Region (Region 2)
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103-1306

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

Dear Dr. Tuggle:

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Dr. Benjamin Tuggle
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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Steve Spangle
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2321 West Royal Palm Road
Suite 103
Phoenix, Arizona 85021-4951

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

Dear Mr. Spangle:

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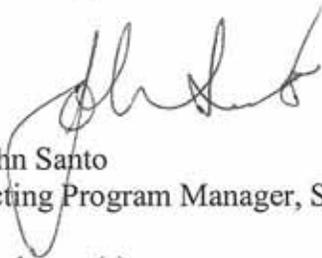
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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Michael Horton
National Section 7 Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 North Fairfax Drive
Suite 420
Arlington, Virginia 22203

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

Dear Mr. Horton:

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Mr. Michael Horton

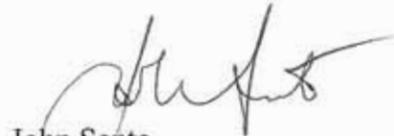
Page 2

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

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

Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI^{net}

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Sherry Barret
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
110 South Church Avenue
Suite 3450
Tucson, Arizona 85701

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

Dear Ms. Barrett:

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

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Ms. Sherry Barrett
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Karen Vitulano
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
Environmental Review Office, Mail Code CED-2
San Francisco, California 94105-3901

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

Dear Ms. Vitulano:

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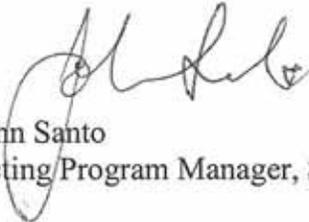
Ms. Karen Vitulano
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

Wayne Natri
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

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

Dear Mr. Natri:

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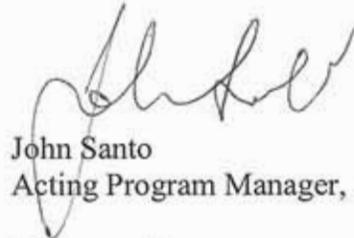
Mr. Wayne Nastri
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Lisa Hanf
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9, Federal Activities Office (CMD-2)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

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

Dear Ms. Hanf:

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Ms. Lisa Hanf
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

Nova Blazej
Regional Environmental Review Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

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

Dear Mr. Blazej:

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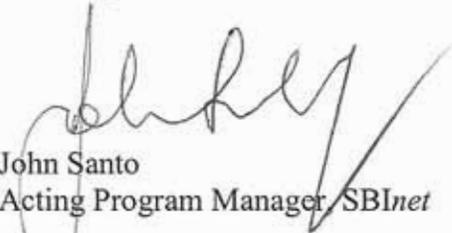
Mr. Nova Blazej
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Keith Graves
District Ranger
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Coronado National Forest
303 Old Tucson Road
Nogales, Arizona 85621

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

Dear Mr. Graves:

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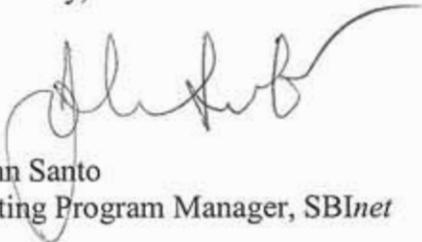
Mr. Keith Graves
Page 2

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Santo", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Eli Curiel
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Coronado National Forest
300 West Congress
Tucson, Arizona 85701

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

Dear Mr. Curiel:

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Mr. Eli Curiel, Jr.
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Thomas H. Magness
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District
915 Wilshire Boulevard
Suite 980
Los Angeles, California 90017

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

Dear Colonel Magness:

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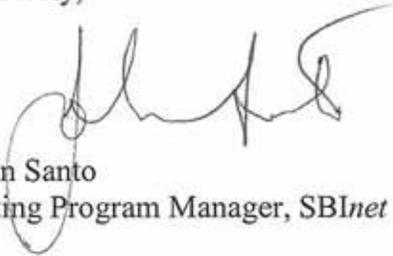
Colonel Thomas H. Magness, IV
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Marjorie Blaine
Senior Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Arizona Regulatory Branch, Los Angeles District
5205 East Comanche Street
Tucson, Arizona 85707

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

Dear Ms. Blaine:

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Ms. Marjorie Blaine

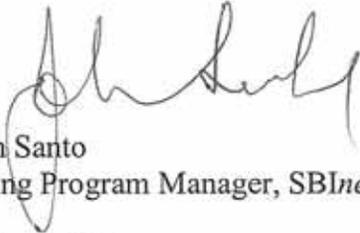
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Kym A. Hall
General Superintendent
Coronado National Memorial
U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Southeast Arizona Group
4101 East Montezuma Canyon Road
Hereford, Arizona 85615

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

Dear Ms. Hall:

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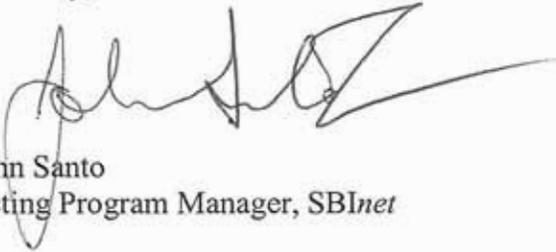
Ms. Kym A. Hall
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

Lee Baiza
Manager
Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument
National Park Service
10 Organ Pipe Drive
Ajo, Arizona 85321

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

Dear Mr. Baiza:

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

Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Richard E. Peace
Division Engineer
International Boundary and Water Commission
U.S. Section, Operations and Maintenance Division
4171 North Mesa
Building C, Suite 310
El Paso, Texas 79902

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

Dear Mr. Peace:

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

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

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Mr. Richard Peace
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Carlos Marin
Commissioner
International Boundary and Water Commission
U.S. Section
4171 North Mesa, Suite C-100
El Paso, Texas 79902-1441

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

Dear Commissioner Marin:

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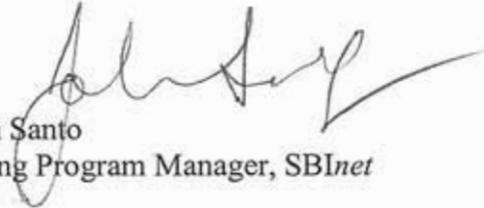
Commissioner Carlos Marin
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Curt Mc Casland
Manager
Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge
1611 North Second Avenue
Ajo, Arizona 85321

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

Dear Mr. Mc Casland:

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Mr. Roger DiRosa
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Terri Rami
District Manager
U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management
Phoenix District
21604 North Seventh Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85021

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

Dear Ms. Rami:

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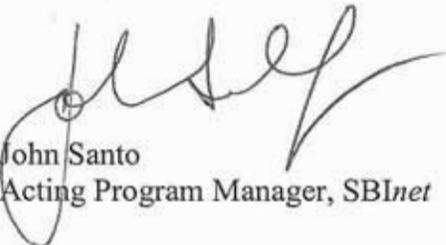
Ms. Terri Rami
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Shela Mc Farlin
Special Assistant for International Programs
U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management
Federal Building, CNF Sixth Floor, #6V3
300 West Congress
Tucson, Arizona 85701

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

Dear Ms. Mc Farlin:

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Ms. Shela McFarlin

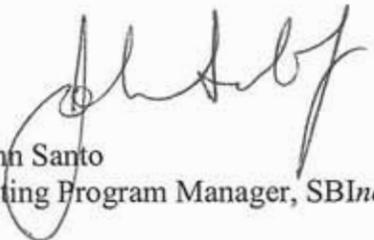
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

Cindy Alvarez
Acting Tucson Field Supervisor
U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management
12661 East Broadway
Tucson, Arizona 85748

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

Dear Ms. Alvarez:

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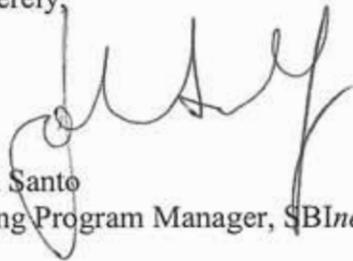
Ms. Cindy Alvarez
Page 2

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Santo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "S".

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Pinal County Board of Supervisors Pinal County Board of Supervisors
118 Catalina
Mammoth, Arizona 85618

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

Dear Pinal County Board of Supervisors:

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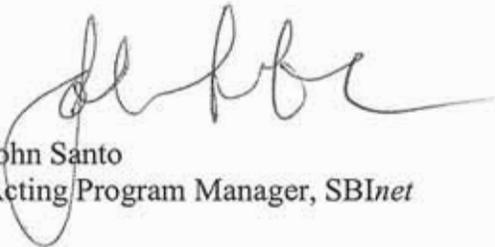
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

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

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

Dear Pima County Board of Supervisors:

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Chuck Huckleberry
County Administrator
Pima County
130 West Congress Street, 10th Floor
Tucson, Arizona 857001

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

Dear Mr. Huckleberry:

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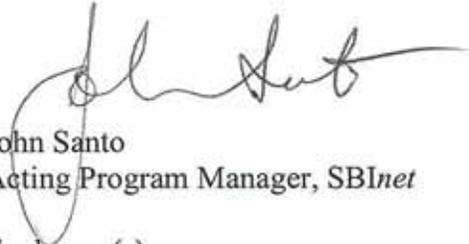
Mr. Chuck Huckleberry
Page 2

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Santo", written over a circular stamp or seal.

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Greg Lucero
County Manager
Santa Cruz County
2150 N. Congress Drive
Nogales, Arizona 85621

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

Dear Mr. Lucero:

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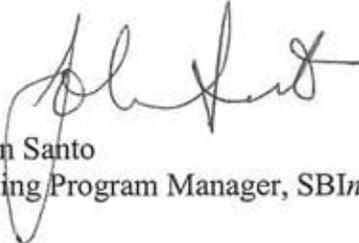
Mr. Greg Lucero
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

Michael Ortega
County Administrator
Cochise County
1415 Melody Lane, Building G
Bisbee, Arizona 85603

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

Dear Mr. Ortega:

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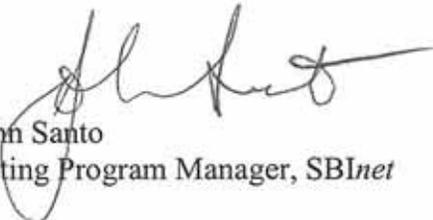
Michael J. Ortega
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

David Smith
County Manager
Maricopa County
301 West Jefferson
10th Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

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

Dear Mr. Smith:

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

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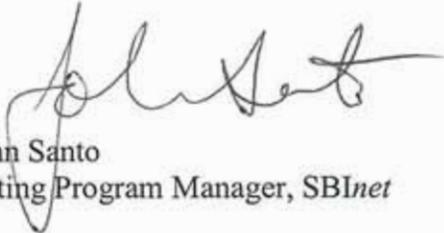
Mr. David Smith
Page 2

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

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

Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

The Honorable John McCain
Senator
United States Senate
241 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510-0303

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

Dear Senator McCain:

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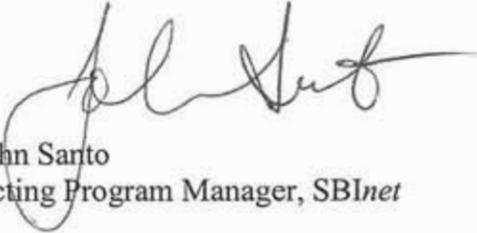
The Honorable John McCain
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

The Honorable Jon Kyl
Senator
United States Senate
730 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0304

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

Dear Senator Kyl:

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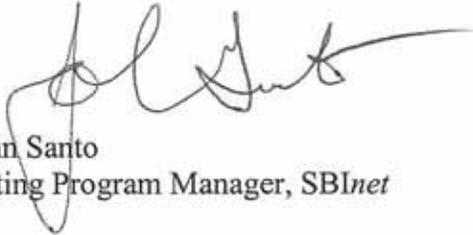
The Honorable Jon Kyl
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John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

The Honorable Raul Grijalva
Representative
United States House of Representatives
1440 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0307

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

Dear Representative Grijalva:

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The Honorable Raul Grijavla
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords
Representative
United States House of Representatives
502 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0308

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

Dear Representative Giffords:

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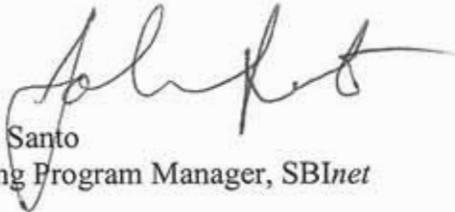
The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Herb Guenther
Director
Santa Cruz Active Management Area
857 West Bell Road, Suite 3
Nogales, Arizona 85621

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

Dear Mr. Guenther:

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Mr. Herb Guenther
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

The Honorable Ray Borane
Mayor
City of Douglas
425 10th Street
Douglas, Arizona 85607

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

Dear Mayor Borane:

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The Honorable Ray Borane
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Jody Latimer
Manager
Arizona State Land Department, Natural Resource Conservation Division
1616 West Adams Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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

Dear Ms. Latimer:

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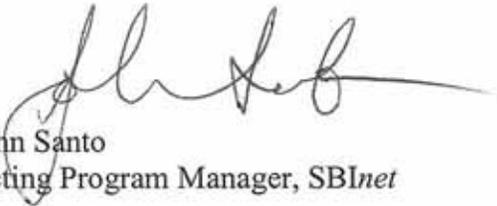
Ms. Jody Latimer
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Bob Broscheid
Project Evaluation Program Supervisor
Arizona Game and Fish
Project Evaluation Program, Habitat Branch
2221 West Greenway Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85023

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

Dear Mr. Broscheid:

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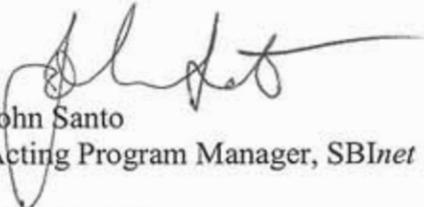
Mr. Bob Broscheid
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Leesa Morrison
Homeland Security Advisor - Arizona
Arizona Department of Homeland Security
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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

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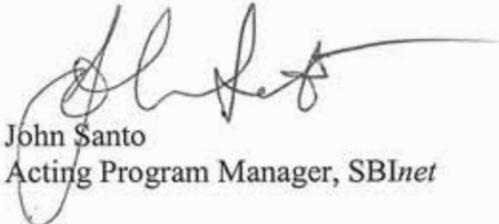
Ms. Leesa Morrison
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Santo", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Steve Owens
Director
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Southern Region Office
400 West Congress
Suite 433
Tucson, Arizona 85701

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

Dear Mr. Owens:

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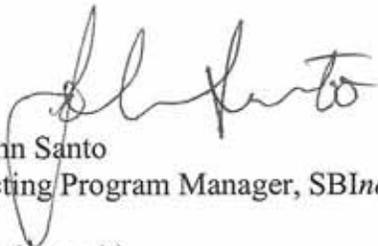
Mr. Steve Owens
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

Lisa Eckert
Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument
10 Organ Pipe Drive
Ajo, Arizona 85321

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

Dear Ms. Eckert:

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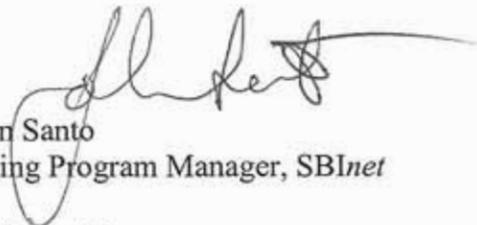
Lisa Eckert
Page 2

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- (a) E-mail to: *TUCWESTCOMMENTS@cbp.dhs.gov*
- (b) Mail to: Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, SBInet Program Management Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7.5B , Washington, D.C. 20229
- (c) Fax to: (202) 344-3550, Attn: Ms. Patterson.

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

Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

The Honorable Bob Walkup
Mayor
City of Tucson
255 West Alameda Street
Tucson, Arizona 85701

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

Dear Mayor Walkup:

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

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

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The Honorable Bob Walkup
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

MAY 30 2008

The Honorable Ignacio Barrazo
Mayor
City of Nogales
777 North Grand Avenue
Nogales, Arizona 85621

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

Dear Mayor Barrazo:

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

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The Honorable Ignacio Barrazo
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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MAY 30 2008

The Honorable Phil Gordon
Mayor
City of Phoenix, Mayor's Office
200 West Washington Street
11th Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

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

Dear Mayor Gordon:

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

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The Honorable Phil Gordon
Page 2

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Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBInet

Enclosure(s)



In reply refer to SHPO-2008-0626
Determinations of eligibility
General comments

June 9, 2008

John Santo, Acting Program Manager, SBInet
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 7.5C
Washington, DC 20229

RE: Determinations of eligibility for archaeological sites in relation to siting, construction and operation of a technology-based border security system (Tucson West); CBP
SHPO-2008-0626 (36599)

Dear Mr. Santo:

Thank you for continuing to consult with our office in regard to the above referenced federal undertaking in the vicinity of Tucson, AZ. William Collins, Historian, and I have reviewed the documentation submitted; your May 23, 2008 letter and one attachment, e-mail correspondence between your office and the Coronado National Forest and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and two supporting cultural resources survey reports. We have the following comments pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800:

1. A total of 19 archaeological sites were identified by the two surveys as intersecting the Tucson West Area of Potential Effect (APE). We note that the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Coronado National Forest, and the Arizona State Land Department concur with your eligibility determinations.

2. We concur:

- a) AZ EE:5:47(ASM), AZ A:5:81(ASM), AR03-05-03-0240, AZ DD:11:6(ASM), AZ DD:11:9(ASM) and AZ DD:11:11(ASM) are each eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion D.
- b) AZ DD:7:36(ASM) and AZ DD:7:37(ASM) are each not eligible for the NRHP.
- c) Eleven of the total 19 sites would require testing to determine NRHP eligibility: AZ FF:12:56(ASM), AZ A:13:42(ASM), AZ EE:9:245(ASM), AZ DD:10:8(ASM) AZ DD:6:66(ASM), AZ DD:6:67(ASM), AZ DD:6:68(ASM), AZ DD:11:8(ASM), AZ DD:11:10(ASM), AZ DD:11:7(ASM) and AZ DD:6:9(ASM).

3. Tower locations have been changed to completely avoid any effects to five sites that need eligibility testing: **AZ DD:6:66, AZ DD:6:67, AZ DD:6:69, AZ DD:11:8, and AZ DD:11:10**. It should be noted for the record that these sites would require eligibility testing for any future proposed federal or state plans or actions.

4. Because the undertaking has potential to affect known historic properties (Register-eligible sites and structures), CBP proposes to ensure that Register-eligible properties are not adversely affected through implementing a variety of treatment measures at each site (e.g., site boundary flagging, in-field contractor training, and archaeological monitoring). This kind of treatment is meant to keep effects below the threshold of Adverse Effect; that is, to avoid and or minimize effects and thus to justify a finding of No Adverse Effect. These measures are not mitigation measures as suggested in your letter – mitigation of adverse effects would require a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

Janet Napolitano
Governor

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Flagstaff

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Kenneth E. Travous
Executive Director

Arizona State Parks
1300 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Tel & TTY: 602.542.4174
www.azstateparks.com

800.285.3703 from
(520 & 928) area codes

General Fax:
602.542.4180

Director's Office Fax:
602.542.4188

5. I agree that early stage planning to avoid adverse effects is an excellent idea, and that the proposed treatment measures may be sufficient to achieve that goal. However, all consulting parties should be reminded that identification of historic properties is not yet complete. Eligibility testing needs to be done at sites within the APE that cannot be avoided. An eligibility plan needs to be developed and reviewed by consulting parties in order that Step 2 of the Section 106 process (36 CFR 800.4) can be completed, and so that CBP and Section 106 participants can continue consulting about historic properties, the application of the Criteria of Adverse Effect, finding of effect, and any treatment measures that might be necessary.

6. I offer the following comments on the adequacy of the survey reports:

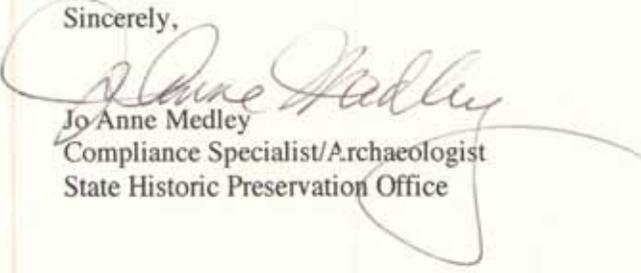
The organization of these reports presented somewhat of a challenge, especially in light of the requested expedited review. My review was slowed considerably by having to continually flip back and forth between text, individual site maps, and two appendices to try to understand where on the landscape the survey had taken place, what the area of potential effect was (which varied for individual towers and access routes), and where currently and previously cultural resources (previously recorded and currently recorded) were located.

Site descriptions were generally minimal and sometimes did not meet standards established by our office and thus eligibility recommendations were not well supported. Site maps did not identify the area of potential effect appropriately (at all), and often identified survey area as synonymous with tower location instead of accurately depicting the area inspected for cultural resources (that in some instances should have included an access road, or included an archaeological site that extended way past the tower location). The 1999 SHPO policy on standardized survey reports is downloadable from www.azstateparks.gov under State Historic Preservation Office /Review and Compliance.

7. I suggest that CBP remind the contractor and the archaeological subcontractor that a cultural resources survey report is meant to meet compliance purposes and thus should be written to demonstrate to the cold reader (e.g., the agency compliance contact, land managers, the SHPO, tribes and other consulting parties) that cultural resources within the agency's defined APE have been located, recorded, and evaluated carefully and that the agency has made a good faith effort to identify historic properties and consider the effects of it's undertaking on those properties. Conventional reporting format and cultural resources documentation that is presented clearly and logically, both in text and graphically, enables reviewers to understand survey observations and eligibility recommendations, and to review documents in a timely manner.

We look forward to continuing to consult on this undertaking and appreciate your office's efforts to consider the potential of CBP's plans and actions to affect historic properties. Please let us know about scheduling a meeting among consulting parties as suggested in your letter.

Sincerely,



Jo Anne Medley
Compliance Specialist/Archaeologist
State Historic Preservation Office



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

JUN 19 2008

Mr. Steve Spangle
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2321 West Royal Palm Road
Suite 103
Phoenix, Arizona 85021

Subject: Formal Consultation for Tucson West Biological Assessment

Dear Mr. Spangle:

Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, Secure Border Initiative (SBI) respectfully requests the initiation of Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7(a)(2) informal and formal consultation for the Tucson West Project in Maricopa, Pinal, Pima, Cochise, and Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona. The enclosed Biological Assessment addresses the potential effects of the action on the listed species and habitats.

The Biological Assessment resulted in the determination of not likely to adversely affect for Gila topminnow, Sonora chub and its critical habitat, Chiricahua leopard frog, Sonoran tiger salamander, masked bobwhite, western yellow-billed cuckoo, lesser long-nosed bat, and the Huachuca water umbel and its critical habitat and likely to adversely affect the Mexican spotted owl and its critical habitat and the Pima pineapple cactus (Table 1). These determinations are based upon the analysis of direct, indirect, interrelated, independent, and cumulative effects of the Project for listed resources.

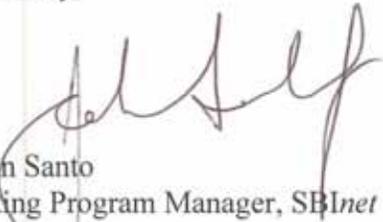
The tower locations within the Tucson West EA do not limit or constrain the future deployment strategy or the future deployment asset locations in the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge or any other adjacent project area. Future tower projects, however, may communicate information to towers currently being proposed for construction.

Although Section 7 allows the Service up to 90 calendar days to conclude formal consultation and an additional 45 calendar days to prepare a biological opinion, we appreciate your willingness to expedite this process through close coordination with the Tucson Field Office and the Washington Office.

Mr. Spangle
Page 2

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Glenn Bixler of the SBI Environmental office at 202-344-2049.

Sincerely,



John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI *net*

Enclosure

cc : Sherry Barrett, Assistant Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Table 1. List of Federally Protected Species Potentially Affected by the SBInet Tucson West Project

LISTED SPECIES	STATUS	COUNTY	DETERMINATION
INVERTEBRATES			
Huachuca Springsnail <i>Pyrgulopsis thompsoni</i>	Candidate	Co; S	No Effect
Stephen's Riffle Beetle <i>Heterelmis stephani</i>	Candidate	S	No Effect
FISH			
Beautiful Shiner <i>Cyprinella Formosa</i>	Threatened	Co	No Effect
Beautiful Shiner Critical Habitat	Final	Co	No Effect
Desert Pupfish <i>Cyprinodon macularis</i>	Endangered	Co; M; Pm; Pn; S	No Effect
Desert Pupfish Critical Habitat	Final	Pm	No Effect
Gila Chub <i>Gila intermedia</i>	Endangered	Co; M; Pm; Pn; S	No Effect
Gila Chub Critical Habitat	Final	Co; Pm; Pn; S	No Effect
Gila Topminnow <i>Poeciliopsis occidentalis occidentalis</i>	Endangered	Co; M; Pm; Pn; S	Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Loach Minnow <i>Tiaroga cobitis</i>	Threatened	Co; Pn	No Effect
Loach Minnow Critical Habitat	Final	Pn	No Effect
Razorback Sucker <i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>	Endangered	M;Pn	No Effect
Sonora Chub <i>Gila ditaenia</i>	Threatened	S	Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Sonora Chub Critical Habitat	Final	S	Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Spikedace <i>Meda fulgida</i>	Threatened	Co; Pn	No Effect
Spikedace Critical Habitat	Final	Co; Pn	No Effect
Woundfin <i>Plagopterus argentissimus</i>	Endangered	M	No Effect
Yaqui Catfish <i>Ictalurus pricei</i>	Endangered	Co	No Effect
Yaqui Catfish Critical Habitat	Final	Co	No Effect
Yaqui Chub <i>Gila purpurea</i>	Endangered	Co	No Effect
Yaqui Chub Critical Habitat	Final	Co	No Effect
Yaqui Topminnow <i>Poeciliopsis occidentalis sonoriensis</i>	Endangered	Co	No Effect

Table 1, continued

LISTED SPECIES	STATUS	COUNTY	DETERMINATION
AMPHIBIANS			
Chiricahua Leopard Frog <i>Rana chiricahuaensis</i>	Threatened	Co; Pm ;S	Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Sonoran Tiger Salamander <i>Ambystoma tigrinum stebbinsi</i>	Endangered	Co;S	Not Likely to Adversely Affect
REPTILES			
New Mexico Ridge-nosed Rattlesnake <i>Crotalus willardi obscurus</i>	Threatened	Co	No Effect
Sonoyta Mud Turtle <i>Kinosternon sonoriense longifemorale</i>	Candidate	Pm	No Effect
BIRDS			
California Brown Pelican <i>Pelecanus occidentalis californicus</i>	Endangered	Co; M; Pm ; Pn; S	No Effect
Masked Bobwhite <i>Colinus virginianus ridgewayi</i>	Endangered	Pm	Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Mexican Spotted Owl <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>	Threatened	Co; M; Pm; Pn; S	Likely to Adversely Affect
Mexican Spotted Owl Critical Habitat		Co; M; Pm; Pn; S	Likely to Adversely Affect
Northern Aplomado Falcon <i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>	Endangered	Co; S	No Effect
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher <i>Empidonax trailii extimus</i>	Endangered	Co; M; Pm; Pn; S	No Effect
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Critical Habitat	Final	Co; M; Pm; Pn	No Effect
Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Candidate	Co; M; Pm; Pn; S	Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Yuma Clapper Rail <i>Rallus longirostris yumanensis</i>	Endangered	M; Pn	No Effect
MAMMALS			
Jaguar <i>Panthera onca</i>	Endangered	Co; Pm; S	No Effect
Lesser Long-nosed Bat <i>Leptonycteris yerbabuenae</i>	Endangered	Co; M; Pm; Pn; S	Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Ocelot <i>Leopardus pardalis</i>	Endangered	Co; Pm; S	No Effect
Sonoran Pronghorn <i>Antilocapra americana sonoriensis</i>	Endangered	M; Pm	No Effect
PLANTS			
Acuna Cactus <i>Echinomastus erectocentrus acunensis</i>	Candidate	Pm; Pn	No Effect
Arizona Cliff Rose <i>Purshia subintegra</i>	Endangered	M	No Effect

Table 1, continued

LISTED SPECIES	STATUS	COUNTY	DETERMINATION
Arizona Hedgehog <i>Echinocereus triglochidiatus</i> var. <i>arizonicus</i>	Endangered	Pn	No Effect
Canelo Hills Ladies-tresses <i>Spiranthes delitescens</i>	Endangered	Co; S	No Effect
Cochise Pincushion Cactus <i>Coryphantha robbinsorum</i>	Threatened	Co	No Effect
Huachuca Water Umbel <i>Lilaeopsis schaffneriana recurva</i>	Endangered	Co; Pm; S	Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Huachuca Water Umbel Critical Habitat	Final	Co; S	Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Kearney's Blue Star <i>Amsonia kearneyana</i>	Endangered	Pm	No Effect
Lemmon Fleabane <i>Erigeron lemmonii</i>	Candidate	Co	No Effect
Nichol's Turk's Head Cactus <i>Echinocactus horizonthalonius nicholii</i>	Endangered	Pm; Pn	No Effect
Pima Pineapple Cactus <i>Coryphantha scheeri robustispina</i>	Endangered	Pm; S	Likely to Adversely Affect

Legend: Co = Cochise; M = Maricopa; Pm = Pima; Pn = Pinal; S = Santa Cruz



THE STATE OF ARIZONA
GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5000 W. CAREFREE HIGHWAY
PHOENIX, AZ 85086-5000
(602) 942-3000 • WWW.AZGFD.GOV

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REV 7/9/08 AHC



July 1, 2008

Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA
US Department of Homeland Security
SBInet Program Management Office
US Customs and Border Protection, Headquarters
1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Room 7.5B
Washington, DC 20229

Re: Draft Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBInet Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Station Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona.

Dear Ms. Patterson:

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) appreciates the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the proposed siting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communication towers; vehicles, supporting infrastructure components; and technological improvements to existing facilities for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) along 81 miles of the US/Mexico border, Tucson Sector, Arizona. The Department understands the proposed action would include 57 fixed, sensor and communication towers and associated access roads.

The Department supports the efforts of the CBP to reduce illegal traffic from the border with the implementation of the BMPs, HACCP plans, and other conservation measures identified in the proposal. However, the Department believes the loss or degradation of habitat for ESA-listed and other wildlife species should be mitigated by implementing local or regional habitat improvements and/or providing funding for state and federal wildlife management and monitoring needs for species affected. The Department has provided specific comments regarding the EA and possible mitigation efforts in the attachment to this letter.

Due to the length of the document and the scope of the proposed project, the Department was not able to adequately review the document in the timeframe allowed. Based on the Department's cursory review, impacts to wildlife (in which the State holds in trust for the people of Arizona) has not been adequately analyzed and addressed by the draft EA.

Close coordination with the Department on large scale projects such as this is vital to ensure adequate coordination and analysis of impacts to the state's wildlife resources. The Department proposes quarterly meetings with CPB to coordinate on activities which may have an effect on the Department's responsibility to manage wildlife. In doing so, it may be possible to avoid some negative impact to wildlife while meeting the project needs of the border patrol agencies.

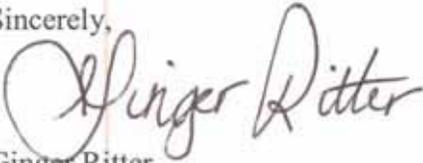
Ms. Patience E. Patterson, RPA

July 1, 2008

2

The Department appreciates the opportunity to coordinate with and provide comments to the CPB. For further coordination or if you have questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (623) 236-7606.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ginger Ritter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ginger Ritter

Project Evaluation Program Specialist, Habitat Branch

cc: Laura Canaca, Project Evaluation Program Supervisor
Joan Scott, Habitat Program Manager, Region V

Attachment

AGFD # M08-06053825

Arizona Game and Fish Department Comments

Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed SBInet Tucson West, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Station Areas of Operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Attachment

July 1, 2008

1. The EA does not reference 'Arizona's Missing Linkages Project', <http://www.corridordesign.org/arizona/>, which provides the latest landscape level wildlife connectivity corridors (linkages) within the state. Tower site TCA-CAG-102 is located within the Ironwood-Picacho Linkage across Interstate 10 near a planned wildlife overpass. Further coordination is necessary to assess whether this overpass has the potential to interfere with the tower site.
2. Water needed for construction activities should be trucked in when practical, and must not directly drain into existing surface waters to prevent potential spread of pathogens, such as chytrid fungus, tiger salamander virus, Asian tapeworm, etc. Use of water from existing livestock tanks and impoundments should be minimized to ensure those resources remain available for livestock and wildlife during dry periods especially during summer months.
3. Impacts to the Chiricahua leopard frog (CLF), and lowland leopard frog (LLF) seem to be relatively unaddressed. Page 124, line 5, 6 states "Proposed tower site TCA-TUS-185 and the access roads to TCA-NGL-046, TCA-NGL-049, and TCA-SON-56 are within 0.1 mile of potential habitat yet the EA states on page 127 that the implementation of conservation measures would "completely avoid any adverse effect, or would minimize the potential for effect to a insignificant or discountable level". This level of certainty seems unwarranted when the threat from introduction of predators/competitors or pathogens such as the chytrid fungus (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*) into leopard frog habitat could occur from the action. This could be the indirect result of a new or improved road into the area which may encourage exploration by the public. Recreationists should be considered vectors for pathogens and predators. Indirect, cumulative impacts caused by the public are not addressed in the EA. The status of the CLF is tenuous and populations have been extirpated from much of their former range in southeast AZ within the last decade. CLF's depend on multiple, interconnected habitats which form a metapopulation. Leopard frogs have been documented to move overland up to 5 miles between wetland habitats during wet periods. Strain on any portion of the metapopulation, including additional fragmentation from roads, sedimentation into waters, or direct mortality from vehicles, could weaken the entire metapopulation, leading to extirpation. The impact to both leopard frog species should be considered and mitigation should include funding for inventory and monitoring of all potential habitat within 5 miles of project components, and especially those within .5 miles. Mitigation should include habitat enhancement and restoration, as well as captive breeding, and

Arizona Game and Fish Department Comments

translocation into new habitats, with the goal of strengthening metapopulations and establishing new metapopulations.

4. Tower site TCA-NGL-211 is within 1 mile of a Mexican Spotted Owl PAC (page 127, line 14 of the EA), and the EA finds that this is likely to adversely affect the MSO and Critical Habitat. The construction of this tower should occur outside the breeding season (February through mid-August). The actual impact of the tower construction on the specific PAC should be monitored. Additionally, an inventory of other extant and potential MSO habitat should be conducted, and funds should be made available for protection, enhancement, and restoration of MSO habitat allowing new MSO PACs to become established.
5. Although the majority of towers are located near existing roads, the roads will be significantly improved and some new roads will be constructed which extend from the existing roads. Such an improved road network will attract motorized recreationists which will increase disturbance to all wildlife, increase spread of noxious weeds, provide an enhanced vector for pathogens and introduced predators/competitors, increased direct mortality from motor vehicle collision, and increased exposure to intentional illegal take of wildlife. Wildlife especially sensitive to intentional illegal take include the Gila monster (*Heloderma suspectum*), ornate box turtle (*Terrapene ornata*) montane rattlesnakes (*Crotalus lepidus*, *C. viridus*, *C. willardi*, *C. pricei*), the desert massassagua (*Sistrurus catenatus*) and game species such as mule deer and white-tail deer. Mitigation for the cumulative and indirect impacts associated with illegal take should include funding for monitoring and enforcement of state wildlife laws in the project area including greater coordination efforts with the Arizona Game & Fish Department to ensure the most efficient enforcement program possible. Page 103 of the EA addresses the effects of increased recreational access but minimizes and dismisses this threat as being balanced out by the “indirect reduction of IE activity”. Even if IE activity is reduced, comparing these two effects is inappropriate. Regardless of the benefits of the project, the negative effects must be analyzed and fully addressed.
6. The spread of noxious weeds as a result of increased recreational access cannot be dismissed as a discountable effect since the threat could result in a whole biotic community change. For example, the spread of buffelgrass in the Sonoran desert is shifting the biome from a non-fire adapted community to a fire-prone system which will eliminate the natural vegetative community. Cumulative effects analysis should include mitigation funding to address all these threats, and at a minimum provide for a monitoring program with an adaptive management strategy which identifies thresholds which release further funding for management actions to mitigate the effects.
7. The EA does not address the economic impact the project will have in relation to the project’s impact on game species. For instance, on page 103 of the EA, in reference to Sonoran Desertscrub vegetative habitats, the EA states “all of the mammals of these

Arizona Game and Fish Department Comments

vegetative habitats are small and most are nocturnal". This over-generalization demonstrates an inadequate analysis of the project area and of the impact to the state economically. This area includes big game species such as javelina, mule deer, and desert bighorn sheep. Moreover, page 104 implies that "hunting pressure" is to blame for decline in pronghorn populations when habitat loss and degradation are universally recognized as primary factors for declines. Legal hunting provides most of the funding to support pronghorn conservation and management. Another statement on page 104 states that "because the project area is on the edge of the Plains Grassland distribution in the U.S. many of the grassland birds [sic] species found in the area are also at the periphery of their range, including . . . Gambel's quail". Gambel's quail is one of the most widespread game bird species in Arizona and is distributed throughout the lowland scrub habitats of the state. It is not primarily a grassland species but a species of scrubland and shrub-invaded grassland. The EA needs further data gathering and analysis to fully address the potential impacts of the project on game species and the Department.



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

JUL 01 2008

Ms. Sally Gall, Refuge Manager
Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge
Highway 206 7.5 miles North
Sasabe, Arizona 85633

Dear Ms. Gall,

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Secure Border Initiative (SBI), SBI*net* Program Office requests a construction permit for the portions of the SBI*net* TUS I project on the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge (BANWR). The proposed action encompasses the construction, installation, and maintenance of five (5) tower sites within BANWR as part of a 57 tower system proposed over the western portion of the Border Patrol Tucson Sector. The deployment plans include the construction of towers identified as TCA-TUS-035, TCA-TUS-085, TCA-TUS-187, TCA-TUS-287, and TCA-TUS-299. The table below identifies the road construction and maintenance needed for the construction of each tower site as well as the current construction schedule for each tower. The tower type is also identified due to the differences in construction techniques as defined in the Environmental Assessment.

Tower Name	Tower Type	Access Road Construction	Access Road Maintenance	Construction Schedule
TCA-TUS-035	RDT	42 feet	None needed	23 July – 12 August
TCA-TUS-085	RDT	33 feet	825 feet	15 July – 1 August
TCA-TUS-187	RDT	86 feet and 16-foot gate	None needed	24 July – 9 August
TCA-TUS-287	RDT	98 feet	None needed	17 July – 2 August
TCA-TUS-299	RDT	None needed	None needed	31 July – 24 August

New access road construction within BANWR would include the construction of a primitive road approximately 16 feet wide (12-foot wide driving surface with 2-foot wide shoulders on either side of the road). The road construction would allow construction vehicles to access the tower site and maintenance visits to the site when necessary. CBP will be responsible for all future access road maintenance.

Road maintenance would also be necessary along some existing roads in order to support construction vehicle and maintenance traffic. Road maintenance in BANWR would consist of grading the road surface, treating the road surface with a dust suppressant and

Ms. Gall
Page 2

consist of grading the road surface, treating the road surface with a dust suppressant and soil stabilizer, and improving the approach angles entering and leaving washes. Please find enclosed digital copies (on CD) of the 60 percent tower and road grading plans for the five tower sites on BANWR.

SBI*net* proposes to use existing public access roads and existing Administrative roads to the greatest extent practicable for construction access and maintenance of the tower sites. During the preliminary tower site selection phase, range fans were used to select the most effective coverage for surveillance and communications repeater tower locations. In some cases, the proposed tower sites were relocated near established public access roads or Administrative roads to eliminate or reduce as much new road construction as possible.

The towers would enhance border enforcement capabilities by improving CBP's ability to detect, intercept, and apprehend illegal border crossers, smugglers and terrorists along the U.S.-Mexico border and in turn would protect the refuge from continued damage from illegal border traffic.

SBI*net* requests written approval for the construction, installation, and maintenance of five tower sites, maintenance to public access roads or Administrative roads for use to access the tower sites, and the construction of new access roads to tower sites TCA-TUS-035, TCA-TUS-085, TCA-TUS-187, and TCA-TUS-287. SBI*net* strongly believes that the action of constructing the tower sites is justified as a special circumstance, because the activity is essential to protecting the quality of available wildlife habitat of BANWR from the degradation caused by illegal border traffic. In addition, the protection afforded by the surveillance and communications towers would help to accomplish the refuge objectives of protection of wildlife and their habitat.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter, if you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Patience Patterson, Environmental Planning Director at (202) 344-1131.

Sincerely,


John Santo
Acting Program Manager, SBI*net*

cc:
Richard Schultz
U.S. Department of Interior Liaison

enclosure



REV - 7/9/08
APA

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
130 W. CONGRESS, TUCSON, AZ 85701-1317
(520) 740-8661 FAX (520) 740-8171

C.H. HUCKELBERRY
County Administrator

July 3, 2008

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

Re: Comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment & Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed SBI-net Tucson West Project, Ajo, Nogales, Sonoita, Casa Grande, and Tucson Stations Areas of operation, Tucson Sector, Arizona

Dear Ms. Patience:

This letter is in response to your request for comments on the above referenced document that has been prepared to identify and assess the potential impacts associated with the proposed sitting, construction, operation, and maintenance of sensor and communication towers along 81 miles of the U.S./Mexico border. Due to the fact that the proposed action is a federal undertaking, the proposed action is either eligible for or outright exempt from most of our regulatory authority with the exception of air quality permits and actions in washes regulated by the Pima County Floodplain and Erosion Hazard Management Ordinance. In addition, the County does own and manage properties for conservation purposes in the general project area and have some concerns based on this status.

Property Issues

- Pima County is the owner of record for parcel number 302-02-0130. Several tower locations are in close proximity to this parcel. There is no information that clarifies whether this parcel plays a role in providing access to towers TCA-TUS-300, TCA-TUS-306, and TCA-TUS-307. If access across parcel 302-02-0130 is required, it

will be necessary for Customs and Border Protection to obtain a Right of Entry Permit and/or an Access Agreement from Pima County.

- Pima County also holds the grazing leases for conservation purposes on certain Arizona State Trust lands within the project area, most notably those State Trust lands associated with the Rancho Seco north of Arivaca. As specific routes for access to tower sites was not provided, we are unable to determine whether intended access routes cross our lease lands. If access routes do, in fact, cross our lease lands, we request that Customs and Border Protection coordinate schedules for road construction/improvements as well as routine maintenance with us. We have, in the past, had issues relative to Customs and Border Protection activities that have compromised our ability to maintain the integrity of our grazing operations. Please coordinate these schedules with Mr. Kerry Baldwin, Natural Resources Manager – Pima County Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation Dept. (kerry.baldwin@pima.gov).
- For any license to use Pima County property to erect and maintain any tower, the County will require that the tower include the capability to receive and transmit emergency 911 cell phone calls for emergency purposes.

Regulatory Issues

- The level of detail provided in the Draft Environmental Assessment does not provide sufficient information to allow us to determine whether any component of the proposed action would potentially be subject to the Pima County Zoning Code. However, if it is determined that any component would, in fact, be subject to the Pima County Zoning Code and Customs and Border Protection plans to claim a governmental exemption, Customs and Border Protection must submit a request for such to the Pima County Development Services Department in order to execute the exemption.
- Exemption from 2006 International Building Code requirements applies in those instances where the tower and associated facilities are federally-owned and operated and occur on federal properties. All other circumstances will require compliance with the 2006 International Building Code including permit issuance from Pima County. Please contact Dr. Yves Khawam, Chief Building Official within the Pima County Development Services Department, (yves.khawam@dspd.pima.gov) for additional information.
- It also appears that, based on information in the Draft Environmental Assessment, that the proposed action will not produce emission/pollutants at levels that would necessitate air quality permits from the Pima County Department of Environmental Quality.