

**Fort Drum (FTD), New York**  
**Jefferson County, New York**  
**Public Scoping Comments in Appendix K**

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**From:** Gerard Capraro  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 16, 2014 7:56 AM  
**To:** MDA.CIS.EIS  
**Subject:** CISInUpstateNY

As an engineer who has worked on many projects related to missile defense since the beginning of SDIO, I am in favor of deploying CIS sites to defend our nation. As a resident of upstate NY I would like to see the East Coast site be deployed at Camp Drum. The people of upstate NY are pro military and pro defense and welcome you to reside amongst us.

If the Israeli's did not have the Iron Dome things would be much different today in the Middle East. With the world changing on a weekly basis our enemies are not contained by borders and a missile launch into the USA may come from any direction. We must be prepared to protect ourselves from our unpredictable enemies.

Thank you for the fine work and dedication of the men and women of the MDA and the DoD.

sincerely,

gtc

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Gerard T. Capraro, Ph.D.  
President  
Capraro Technologies, Inc.  
401 Herkimer Road  
Utica, New York 13502

[www.CapraroTechnologies.Com](http://www.CapraroTechnologies.Com)

## Public Comments

Speaker 3:

KEITH CAUGHLIN: I am for this. I want to say I'm in favor of the ground base interceptor site at Fort Drum. I think it makes sense if congress and the national commandatory deem that's what they want to do, it would be a great spot for it. The area of Fort Drum would be diversified beyond just the Army. It would be an economic benefit to the local area, and it seems that we have the infrastructure that would support the missile interceptor system.



In response to your CIS-EIS Form , we submit the following comments and observations regarding the siting of a system at Ft. Drum, NY:

1. Housing prices and assessments: With the influx of approximately 1800 permanent personnel and the short term increase of construction workers, the prices and assessments of existing homes and rental units will continue to increase. This will continue to price out the local residents who do not have the equivalent income of the military and civilian workers. If the population of Ft. Drum stabilizes or decreases due to sequestration, there would possibly be a ceiling on these increases thus enabling the local population to purchase a home and/or for the older residents to remain in their homes. The continued increases in assessments and taxes has forced many long time senior residents to sell their homes in lieu of loosing them to tax foreclosure.

2. Rental costs: The same cost issues apply to rental housing. The military BAQ dictates local rents and only military/DOD civilians can afford decent rental units. Every time there is an increase in BAQ, rents also increase. Whereas there are a large number of rental units available in the Ft. Drum area, a large portion of those are sub-standard by military standards and these are the units that are left for the local populace to rent.

3. Taxes: Due to the ever expansion of new rental developments, Village, Town, County and School taxes will continue to increase. An increase in population and corresponding infrastructure always necessitates an increase in services and therefore taxes. Adding approximately 1800 personnel who will avail themselves of the new construction of rental units/homes will also add to the number of children in our schools thus requiring additional classrooms, staff and transportation costs which will need to be met by increasing taxes. Taxes have become a severe burden to our senior citizens who are on fixed incomes and increasingly unable to remain in their homes as the housing market changes with increased assessments every two years.

4.. Jobs and the Economy: Although the build-up of Ft. Drum has expanded the local economic base, a large percentage of the additional jobs have been only minimum wage positions in the local market. These jobs do not offer a living wage. It is most likely that the anticipated 1800 new jobs brought to the area will be military operators transferred from other sites or Technical Schools, DOD civilians, also transferring from other existing installations, which will provide oversight of operations and continuity of operations. The contractors who will build the missile system site will be hired by the prime contractor and some may possibly be sub-contracted from local businesses. The contractors who will assist in the maintenance of the site will probably be from the prime contractor for the development of the system. Many positions will probably be filled by retired military personnel who are already trained in the field or recently discharged personnel also already trained, having recent security clearances and veterans' points/preference in consideration for employment in a civil service position. We do not foresee a large increase of employment for the local residents. Another local impact with the addition of more personnel is the availability of health care. Ft. Drum does not have a hospital and our ability to provide care with the number of local physicians is already an

issue.

5. The Bulls-eye: When Ft. Drum became the home to the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division this area became a recognized target for a possible first strike from any unfriendly nation with long range missile capability. By placing an anti-missile system at Ft. Drum, it only re-enforces the probability of the area remaining a prime target of any country/terrorist group with a limited missile capability. We will remain a first strike zone. By eliminating the anti-missile sites it would enable any enemy with just a few remaining missiles to create severe damage to our government and population centers.

6. Site selection: If Ft. Drum is selected, we would prefer the site which lies north of County Rt. 3A near Fargo. The area closer to Fargo has a less dense population and the effects of the illumination would be less of an annoyance. If the site south of Rt. 3A is selected, our concern is that the illumination would be detrimental to the village of Herrings and areas of Carthage. If the decision was made to expand that site to 60 missiles, the re-routing of Rt. 3A is of great concern. With the past closing of other roads (Rt. 37), the additional closing of Rt. 3A would create a burden to the local populace. Although security issues must be taken into consideration and we realize this will be a high security area, the loss of the use of Rt. 3A would not be in the best interest of a large group of local residents and would create a hardship. We are also concerned as to the possible loss of recreational access to sections of training areas 7,8,9, and 14 which may be placed on the off limits list due to security requirements.

Overall, the impact of the placement of the missile site at Ft. Drum seems to have more negatives than positives. .

Sincerely,

*Wilfred & Sue Ellen Deion*

Wilfred J. & Sue Ellen Deion

MDA.CIS.EIS@BV.COM  
6601 College Blvd.  
Overland Park, KS 66211-1504

Re: Proposed Missile Defense Interceptor Site at Fort Drum in NYS

Hello:

I'd like my comments to go into the public record in regard to the above proposal. I live in Upstate New York, and the missile defense interceptor site would thus be in my region of the state.

This type of military expense is often sold as a job creator. I think the scoping document should look at what jobs could be created by the same amount of money going into job creation, training and placement for useful peaceful endeavors. For example, the document should analyze the number of jobs which could be created by a massive campaign to train people to install solar panels, retrofit existing buildings to make them energy efficient, provide incentives to individuals and organizations and businesses to save energy and natural resources.

I also find it extremely important that the military is saying we do not need this additional site to protect our nation. So apparently it is just the politicians who aren't imaginative enough to use our taxes to create meaningful jobs.

I oppose the proposed missile defense interceptor site.

Sincerely,

  
(Ms.) Linda A. DeStefano

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**From:** Debbie Elliott  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 23, 2014 7:25 AM  
**To:** MDA.CIS.EIS  
**Subject:** Missile Defense @ Fort Drum

I totally oppose this. My local area has had more than enough negative impact from Fort Drum than it can endure. Please don't inflict this on us. It proposes more jobs, but I have learned quite readily it truly does not benefit non civilian and non veterans. The proposal is sold with the embellishment of a politician and ends up far from the painted rosy picture. I fear the loss of public use of Route 3A causing longer commutes. This happened with "the Philadelphia RD" when the airfield was enlarged. Again causing us to drive miles out of the way and doubling travel time. Please do not put this in my back yard.



Comment Sheet for the  
Continental United States (CONUS)  
Interceptor Site (CIS)  
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Thank you for attending this public scoping meeting. Our purpose for hosting this meeting is to give you an opportunity to comment on issues to be analyzed in the EIS. Please use this sheet to comment on any issues that you feel should be addressed. To ensure that your comments are addressed, we must receive your comments by September 15, 2014.

Please place form in the drop box or mail to:

Black & Veatch Special Projects Corp.  
Attn: MDA CIS EIS  
6601 College Boulevard  
Overland Park, KS 66211

Or  
Email: MDA.CIS.EIS@bv.com  
Fax: 913-458-1091

Date: 8/1/14

I Am a pro Fast Down!  
I feel their influence is positive - We are all targets now days - This does not make us anymore of one

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Joellen Heukroth

## Public Comments

Speaker 2:

JOELLEN HEUKRATH: I am pro. I'm in support of anything that will keep Fort Drum in our area and support our troops and put our I don't think that we are anymore of a target than we are in every day life nowadays. It's just another way to protect us.

## Jeffrey Lawton

August 21, 2014

Re; Missile Site on State Rt 3A

As a lifelong North Country native, I truly know what this missile site could do for our economy, but, sometimes you have to step back and look at the complete picture.

I was unable to attend the meeting on August 19, 2014 due to my work schedule. So, I have tried to stay informed via the newspaper and local television news reports. The one issue that has me concerned is a statement that was made at the meeting. That statement was "Route 3A will have to be reconfigured".

What does that mean, "reconfigured"? Does it mean redesign, rearrange, reshape? Or does it mean close route 3A as was done to the road from Fort Drum to Philadelphia, for the airport project? If route 3A was completely closed, what would be the impact? There are several consequences that would result from this closure that need to be considered. I would like to list a few that I foresee, that need to be addressed.

- 1) Fire and Ambulance response time would increase to residents of 3A. Since the Deferiet and Herrings Fire Departments are closed, the Carthage FD would have further to travel to respond to calls in that area.
- 2) Route 3, between Herrings and Carthage is not always the safest route to drive. The speed limit was recently lowered to 45 mph because of its sharp corners and hazards. It can also be extremely dangerous during the winter months, with the wind and snow coming off the Black River making visibility difficult, even blinding at times,
- 3) Almost every year the Black River floods portions of this road, closing businesses, homes and even the road itself. So much so that Gov. Cuomo came to inspect the flooding problem.

- 4) The surge in traffic on this road, especially from larger vehicles hauling containments, could endanger the environment. The Black River is very close to the road. Doesn't Watertown get their drinking water from the Black River?
- 5) Have the traffic patterns been considered? Will the increased traffic through Carthage create congestion? Just a few days ago, I witnessed a tractor trailer coming up North School Street (route 3), while turning onto State Street (to remain on route 3) the cars stopped at the light had to back up so he could make the corner. I am sure if the tractor trailer driver had realized that 3A was an alternate route, he could have avoided that situation. But, without 3A, that will be an everyday occurrence.

The stretch of route 3, from Herrings to Carthage is very fragile. Route 3A gives drivers an alternate route around what some consider a dangerous span of highway. Route 3A saves both time traveling and aides in the safety of our environment.

So, what does "Reconfiguring route 3A" mean? I hope our representatives in Carthage, Town of Wilna and surrounding areas are asking this important question.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey K. Lawton

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**From:** Carl McLaughlin ·  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 11, 2014 2:22 PM  
**To:** MDA.CIS.EIS  
**Cc:** 'Barbara Webber'; 'Carole McCoy'; 'Col Gary Rosenberg'; 'David Zembiec'; 'Dennis Affinati'; 'Elizabeth Fipps'; 'F. Anthony Keating'; 'Henry Leader'; 'James Wright'; 'Jay Boak'; 'John Deans'; 'John Johnson Jr.'; 'Judy Gentner'; 'Julie Cannan'; 'Keith Caughlin'; 'Kelly Fish'; 'Kevin Jordan'; 'Mary Corriveau'; 'Mike Boprey'; 'Nickolas Darling'; 'Patti Schreck'; 'Patty LaClair'; 'Rich O'Connor'; 'Robert Hagemann'; 'Ronald McDougall'; 'Terry Roche'; 'Tom Carman'  
**Subject:** Missile Defense site at Fort Drum  
**Attachments:** Itr MDA CIS EIS 09 10 2014.pdf

Sir or Madam:

Thank you for your organizations role in holding the Open House and Public Scoping session for a potential missile defense site to be located at Fort Drum. It was most informative and everyone I've spoken to feels it well carried out.

Please accept the attached letter as feedback from FDRLO, a membership organization that strongly supports and advocates for Fort Drum, Soldiers and their families, and the civilian work force that support Fort Drum's mission. We look forward to the possibility of using Fort Drum for this very important defense project.

Carl A. McLaughlin  
Executive Director  
Fort Drum Regional Liaison Organization  
200 Washington Street, Suite 406 (PO Box 775)  
Watertown NY 13601

Phone: .  
Mobile

Email: .

[www.FDRLO.org](http://www.FDRLO.org) [www.DrumCountry.com](http://www.DrumCountry.com) [www.DrumCountryBusiness](http://www.DrumCountryBusiness)



## FORT DRUM REGIONAL LIAISON ORGANIZATION

200 Washington Street, Suite 406  
Watertown, New York 13601  
(315) 836-1531 Fax: (315) 836-1532  
E-mail: [office@fdrlo.org](mailto:office@fdrlo.org)

September 10, 2014

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Carl A. McLaughlin

Black & Veatch Special Projects Corp  
Attn: MDACIS EIS  
6601 College Boulevard  
Overland Park, KS 66211-1504

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Fort Drum Regional Liaison Organization (FDRLO) would like to express its strong interest in participating in the process to potentially site a missile defense system at Fort Drum. The FDRLO has led the community for over 25 years in its support for new economic opportunities related to military activities. The FDRLO's mission is to foster effective communication, understanding, and support by serving as the primary point of coordination and advocacy for resolution of those issues of mutual interest of the military and civilian community of the Fort Drum region. One of its primary goals is to ensure the continued growth and sustainability of Fort Drum and the Fort Drum region.

The recent scoping session at Fort Drum provided valuable information to the community in order to better understand the opportunities with potentially siting a missile defense system at Fort Drum. We were especially interested in hearing about the economic benefits to the community, including the creation of both short-term construction jobs and long-term permanent jobs.

We are also very interested in understanding any impacts this project may have on the Army's current mission at Fort Drum and the surrounding community. Ensuring this project's compatibility with current and future activities at Fort Drum is critically important to the community. Outlining these issues and any mitigating actions that can be taken as part of the EIS process will help the community better understand those factors and help alleviate any concerns.

*Mission: To foster effective communication, understanding and mutual support by serving as the primary point of coordination and advocacy for resolution of those issues of mutual interest to the military and civilian community of the Fort Drum region.*

The Fort Drum community recognizes the importance of the military and its benefit to the region as the largest single-site employer in Upstate New York. Fort Drum generated \$1.8 billion in economic benefits last year. We are fierce advocates for maintaining its continued presence for the economic prosperity of the communities surrounding Fort Drum. As a result, we consider this project like any other economic development initiative, an opportunity to consider you as a new community partner and an opportunity to better understand both the positive and negative impacts your project will have on the community.

We look forward to fostering this relationship with the Missile Defense Agency as it studies the opportunities and impacts of a potential site at Fort Drum.

Sincerely,



Carl A. McLaughlin  
Executive Director  
Fort Drum Regional Liaison Organization

Cc: FDRLO Board

*Mission: To foster effective communication, understanding and mutual support by serving as the primary point of coordination and advocacy for resolution of those issues of mutual interest to the military and civilian community of the Fort Drum region.*



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Attn: MDA CIS EIS  
6601 College Boulevard  
Overland Park, KS 66211

Or  
Email: MDA.CIS.EIS@bv.com  
Fax: 913-458-1091

Date: August 19, 2014

I came to the meeting thinking the missile defense system for Fort Drum is a good thing and still think that way after talking to representatives of MDA

It is a good thing for the economy and we need it to happen ~~at~~ ~~on~~ ~~at~~ on Fort Drum.

.....

Name: Jeff Seber  
Affiliation: resident  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_



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Interceptor Site (CIS)  
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Email: MDA.CIS.EIS@bv.com  
Fax: 913-458-1091

Date: August 19, 2014

This meeting was extremely informative. I came into ~~this~~ this meeting thinking this MDS was a great idea and I still think it is after discussing things with all the representatives. Everyone was very knowledgeable and answered my questions completely. I feel this MDS site is needed here and will be a positive addition to Fort Drum. I am definitely a supporter.

.....

Name: Kay Saber  
Affiliation: resident  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Public Comments

### Speaker 1:

DENNIS SEARS: My name is Dennis Sears. I just think this whole forum was kind of misleading. I think that people thought this was going to be an open forum where people talk and get answers to other questions. Like, you know, if they build these sites, what's it going to do with the training shortages that is already -- they have shortages already of locations to do training that they can't meet. They want to try to take out state forests and stuff like that, and I don't think that people really understood that they were going to build these right in our back yards, not back in the back woods where nobody lives, in the old Smithville area, way back in the back, but they are going to build them right in people's back doors on a major highway.

I don't know, as retired military, I think this was all set up to be kind of underhanded that the remarks that they want to put out, they will put out, and the remarks that they don't like, nobody will ever hear about them like you would in a public forum where is the t.v. cameras are here because they have nobody to watch. A lot of people that have comments about this kind of stuff, they will come to a public forum. They are not going to go around talk one on one, but if they see their neighbors and their friends standing up voicing their opinion, they will do that. This type of deal, you know, they are not going to sit on one on one and talk to somebody they do not even know.

I just think this is misleading to the people and I think it's bad planning, the whole thing, the way they want to put it. I mean, accidents happen. We have families, you know. I don't think people ever realize where it's going to be, right in the back door of people on Route 3 and right on the front door of people that live on 3A, and right in the corner of people that live in Munns Corners, the families.

I think there should be a public forum where everybody can stand up and speak to a panel and be heard, not just one on one, because if they don't -- the way it is right now, if they don't like the comments I said, whose gonna hear them?



# TOWN OF WILNA

SUPERVISOR - PAUL H SMITH (315) 493-2771

414 STATE STREET CARTHAGE, NY 13619

TDD# 1-800-662-1220

TOWN CLERK - MICHEL R CAMIDGE (315) 493-2771

Fax (315) 493-8155

September 12, 2014

Black & Veatch Special Project Corp  
ATTN: MDA CIS EIS  
6601 College Boulevard  
Overland Park, KS 66211-1504

Dear Sirs:

A missile sight on Fort Drum in Northern New York would be a definite plus for our economy. We definitely need the 400 - 600 temporary construction jobs and the 1200 - 1800 military, civilian and contractor jobs it would provide. The impact of closing paper mills in our area has been traumatic on the local economy.

The main concern of the Board of the Town of Wilna is the fate of Route 3A. That route has become, over the years, the gateway to the Adirondacks. Closing it would be a detriment to our area. It seems that Fort Drum is large enough that a missile sight could be chosen that would not impact any of the surrounding highways.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our thoughts on this matter. Please contact us if you need further input.

Sincerely,

Paul H. Smith  
Supervisor

PHS/mms

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**From:** Sarin Vartak  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 16, 2014 6:35 PM  
**To:** MDA.CIS.EIS  
**Subject:** Missile Interceptor at Ft. Drum

Sir/Ma'am,

The only question I have is, if hypothetically an enemy makes it a target by firing another missile at it to take our defense out, would not that also take out a whole division of infantry stationed right beside it?

Thank you



Comment Sheet for the  
Continental United States (CONUS)  
Interceptor Site (CIS)  
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Overland Park, KS 66211

Or  
Email: MDA.CIS.EIS@bv.com  
Fax: 913-458-1091

Date: 9/19/14

Do IT in support of Fort Drum

.....

Name: Julius J. Waller  
Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**From:** Richard W. Weiskopf <  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 27, 2014 7:43 PM  
**To:** MDA.CIS.EIS  
**Subject:** East Coast Missile Defense Site

Dear Sir/Ms:

I am strongly against the building of an East Coast missile defense site. We need to spend much less on military and apply the money to other severe problems of our country:

alleviating poverty, improving education (a number of European and Asian countries are ahead of us in this area), fixing our neglected and deteriorating infrastructure, improving deplorable conditions in our inner cities, improving our health care system and making a high standard of health care uniformly available to our citizens.

Regarding jobs that the missile site would provide, the same number of jobs and more could be created by putting people to work setting up renewable forms of energy, such as solar, wind, geothermal, biomass.

Finally, our Pentagon leaders say that an East Coast interceptor base is not necessary for the nation's defense (Syracuse Post Standard, 8-24-14)

Richard Weiskopf MD

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