

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
for the Construction and Operation of an E-85 Fueling Station
at the Huntington VA Medical Center in Huntington, West Virginia

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) completed the final Environmental Assessment (EA) for the E-85 Fueling Station at the Huntington VA Medical Center (VAMC) in Huntington, West Virginia. Based on the analyses in the EA, the VA has determined that the proposed action, installation, and operation of an E-85 Fueling Station at the Huntington VAMC would result in no significant adverse impacts to the environment.

The proposed action would involve the installation and operation of a new E-85 Fueling Station at the Huntington VAMC, which would consist of an above-ground storage tank (AST) and a dispensing station.

The proposed action is a federal action subject to the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq.). NEPA requires that federal agencies consider environmental consequences in their decision-making process. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) issued regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508) to implement NEPA that includes provisions for both the content and procedural aspects of the required environmental analysis. The VA complies with NEPA and CEQ implementing regulations in accordance with 38 CFR, Part 26 (Environmental Effects of the Department of Veterans Affairs Actions).

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

The purpose of this project, the installation and operation of the E-85 Fueling Station, is to reduce the Federal government's dependency on imported oil and increase the VA's energy conservation efforts. The proposed action will help the Huntington VAMC meet its commitment to energy conservation.

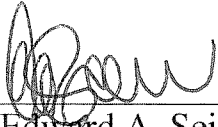
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

This decision is a site-specific action that by itself does not have international, national, or statewide importance. The discussion of the significance criteria that follows applies to this decision and is within the context of local and regional importance. The following discussion is organized around the Ten Significance Criteria described in the NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1508.27). Based on the findings of the EA, the proposed action is not a major federal action, either individually or cumulatively, and will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment; therefore, the preparation of an environmental impact statement is not necessary. This determination is based upon the following factors found at 40 CFR 1508.27(b):

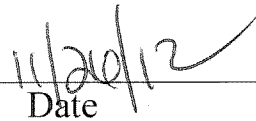
1. The analysis documented in the EA did not identify any individual or cumulatively significant adverse effects.
2. Public health and safety is not adversely affected.
3. Planned actions will not significantly affect any unique characteristics or features of the geographic area, such as wetlands, park lands, prime farm lands, wild and scenic rivers, floodplains, or ecologically critical areas, etc.
4. The effects on the quality of the human environment are not likely to be highly controversial.
5. The actions do not involve highly uncertain, unique, or unknown environmental risks.
6. The actions in this decision will not set a precedent influencing approval of future actions with significant effects.
7. The possible cumulative effects of the proposed action have been analyzed with consideration for past and reasonable foreseeable future activities on adjacent private and public lands. Cumulative impacts over space and time will not be significant.
8. The proposed action will have no adverse effect on any sites listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places, nor will they cause the loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.
9. Implementing this decision will not adversely affect threatened or endangered species, or result in loss of any other species' viability, or create significant trends toward Federal listing of the species under the Endangered Species Act.
10. None of the actions threaten to lead to violations of Federal, State, or local laws imposed for the protection of the environment.

DECISION

Based on the analysis in the final EA for the E-85 Fueling Station at the Huntington VAMC in Huntington, West Virginia the proposed action, as described above, would have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required, and the VA is issuing this FONSI.



Edward A. Seiler
Medical Center Director



Date