

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
PUBLIC DRAFT SITE-SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 2018 MASTER PLAN EXPANSION
NATIONAL CEMETERY OF THE ALLEGHENIES
BRIDGEVILLE, WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) has prepared a Draft Site-Specific Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to assess the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action to implement the VA's 2018 Site Expansion Master Plan for the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies (NCOTA), located at 1158 Morgan Road, Bridgeville, Pennsylvania. Under the Proposed Action, future expansion phases would be designed according to the 2018 Master Plan. The next proposed expansion is Phase 3, which would be constructed in the northern portion of NCOTA over the next two years and provide approximately 13,500 new burial areas and minor infrastructure improvements. The 2018 Master Plan includes up to 10 potential future expansion phases in the southern portion of the NCOTA property. Over the course of full buildout, the southern expansion phases would provide approximately 50,900 new burial sites, roadways, and infrastructure including stormwater and irrigation management systems, and extend the longevity of the NCOTA for future generations of veterans and their families in southwestern Pennsylvania. The VA would evaluate the need to implement each potential future expansion phase approximately every 8-10 years. Separate NEPA assessments would be performed prior to implementing a potential future expansion phase.

The VA prepared the Draft SEA in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), (Public Law 91-190, 42 USC 4321-4347 January 1, 1970), amendments, and VA's Implementing Regulations (38 CFR Part 26).

The VA invites the public to review the Draft SEA and provide comments within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Printed copies of the Draft SEA are available for review at the NCOTA Public Information Center/Administration Building; at the Frank Sarris Public Library at 35 North Jefferson Avenue, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, 15317; and at the Bridgeville Public Library at 505 McMillen Street, Bridgeville, Pennsylvania, 15017; and can be electronically downloaded from the VA website at <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/EA.asp>.

Comments received during the 30-day review period will be addressed and documented in the Final SEA. Please address all comments to: Mr. Glenn Elliott, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Construction & Facilities Management Office, 425 I (eye) Street, NW, Room 6W417a, Washington, D.C., 20001; by email to glenn.elliott@va.gov; or by telephone at (202) 632-5879. Please reference "National Cemetery of the Alleghenies Expansion" in all correspondence.