

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Office of Construction & Facilities Management Washington DC 20420

November 1, 2021

Sent via email

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed Seismic Upgrades and Renovations at the Veterans Affairs Puget Sound Health Care System American Lake Campus, Tacoma, WA

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared for proposed seismic upgrades and renovations at the VA Puget Sound Health Care System American Lake Division Campus, located at 9600 Veterans Drive in Tacoma, WA. VA proposes to implement a phased program of demolition, renovation, and construction over several years at the American Lake campus.

The Draft EA examines the potential environmental effects from implementing the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative. VA prepared the Draft EA in accordance with the regulations implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S. Code 4321-4370h), as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508), and VA Implementing Regulations (38 CFR Part 26).

The Draft EA is available for public review at Tillicum Pierce County Library (located at 14916 Washington Ave SW, Lakewood) and on the VA website at www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/index.asp. The 30-day public review and comment period ends on December 1, 2021. Comments on the Draft EA should be sent to vacoenvironment@va.gov with the subject line "American Lake Seismic Upgrades EA" no later than December 1, 2021.

VA will prepare and publish a Final EA following the 30-day comment period. The Final EA will summarize and address comments on the Draft EA.

For additional information or questions, please contact Ms. Christine Modovsky, VA Environmental Engineer, at Christine.Modovsky@va.gov or (202) 632-5352. Reference "American Lake Seismic Upgrades EA" in your correspondence.

Respectfully,

Glenn Elliott Director, Environmental Program Office Office of Construction & Facilities Management