UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

JUN 26 2003

PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

SUBJECT: Guidance for Fiscal Years 2006-2011 Sustainable Ranges Programs

Each Service has begun to implement internal programs aimed at ensuring long-term range sustainment. The Fiscal Year 2004 Defense Planning Guidance (DPG) contained direction that was important in supporting this process, but was limited in scope and detail. To address this concern, the Sustainable Ranges Integrated Product Team (IPT) has cooperatively developed more comprehensive programmatic guidance.

On March 7, 2003, the Deputy Secretary approved the Senior Readiness Oversight Council's recommendation that I issue the Sustainable Ranges IPT's programmatic guidance to the Services. The attached is provided for your use in setting the course for Fiscal Year 2006-2011 sustainable range programs. This guidance builds upon the initial Fiscal Year 2004 DPG guidance, providing a more comprehensive framework to guide Service planning and programming efforts in anticipation of the Fiscal Year 2006 DPG. I believe this will significantly advance our efforts towards building viable range sustainment programs.

With your leadership, we are making significant progress towards enhancing range sustainability. We appreciate your continuing cooperation and support on this important effort. The Sustainable Ranges IPT, chaired by the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Readiness), Dr. Paul Mayberry, will continue to work with you on sustainable ranges programmatic guidance and related issues. My action officer for this activity is Mr. John Walsh, Deputy Director, Readiness and Training, (703) 695-1760, john.walsh@osd.mil.

David S. C. Chu

Attachment:
As stated

cc:
ASD(LA)
DOT&E
DUSD(I&E)
OGC
Sustainable Range OIPT Members

DoD Sustainable Ranges Programmatic Guidance
for Fiscal Years 2006-2011

Sustainable Range Programs: Large, unencumbered training and testing ranges, instrumented to support realistic combat training and testing, are a unique American military capability. As such, they are an essential training aid to meld personnel and material into a combat ready force. They provide a tool to transform the force to meet new missions and take advantage of new technology.

Infrastructure: Modernize range facilities to sustain range operations in accordance with OSD and Service training transformation strategies by resourcing advanced instrumentation and other infrastructure.

- Document current and future test, training and operational requirements for ranges.
- Develop new ranges in such a way as to minimize future encroachment.
- Develop spectrum-efficient technologies for range instrumentation.
- Ensure all new range instrumentation is compatible with the Test and Training Enabling Architecture (TENA).
- Implement joint requirements in Service instrumentation programs funded by the Joint National Training Center.
- Provide interfaces with platforms, weapon systems, and Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems supportive of the training transformation.
- Use best practices, consistent with operational requirements, in the design and use of ranges to minimize off-range community effects (noise, smoke and dust, etc.), mitigate possible off-range migration of munitions constituents and facilitate future range transfer or closure when such action can be reasonably anticipated.

Operations: Resource for standardized land management structure and operations that mitigate encroachment and provide for range sustainment.

- Develop and manage according to comprehensive, operationally-focused range sustainability plans at both individual range level and Service-wide/DoD level.
- Emphasize use of technical or procedural sustainability approaches such as biodegradable inert munitions or green ammunition, where practical and consistent with military need, at all training ranges.
- Establish an interdisciplinary approach to sustainable range management that integrates the operational, safety, facility, and environmental management functions at all echelons within each of the Services.

- Implement cross-disciplinary sustainability management approaches (such as the Navy's Enhanced Readiness Team (ERT)) for range sustainment within Services.
- Consider cross-Service, regional management approaches, such as the Regional Environmental Coordinators (RECs), to improve coordination on encroachment issues.
- Establish a multi-disciplined career program for range operations personnel that supports effective implementation of sustainable range management programs.

Maintenance: Maximize and sustain the availability of military range and land assets by resourcing for restoration and maintenance of range infrastructure and land assets.

- Implement active land management practices that sustain range quality as required for military operations (e.g., the Army's Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM)) programs).
- Institute range Unexploded ordnance and residue management programs.
- Institute appropriate operational range clearance programs.

Encroachment: Maximize the accessibility of DoD ranges by minimizing restrictions brought about by encroachment factors.

- Acquire buffer zones or employ other mitigation strategies around all ranges to support current and reasonably foreseeable future operations.
- Develop and implement a quantification and reporting processes for encroachment impacts.
- Develop a Service-wide range inventory and database covering all ranges.
- Revitalize Air Installation Compatible Use Zone (AICUZ/RACUZ) and noise programs.
- Promote urban growth management programs at local, regional and federal levels.

Environmental Responsibilities: Focus the environmental management systems to fully support sustained required access to ranges.

- Conduct necessary environmental research and development on key range sustainment issues in order to achieve information superiority on all major issues (ordnance/constituent impacts, marine mammals, species baseline data, etc).
- Plan for and implement Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan standardization and improvements based on mission range requirements.
- Assess potential hazards from off-range migration of munitions constituents.

Outreach: Implement sustainment outreach efforts that will improve public understanding of DoD requirements for training and testing and support coalition-building and partnering on range sustainment issues important to DoD readiness.

- Conduct local community outreach at all ranges and associated installations.
- Develop Service-wide programs to provide common outreach information and tools to all installation commanders and staff.
- Establish Local Points-of-Contact (non-Public Affairs) for Range Sustainment.

New Technologies: Pursue the development of new technologies or capabilities that support range sustainment goals and objectives.