

## **SPACEPORT PROJECT REVIEW DEEPLY FLAWED, ERRONEOUS**

At recent hearings on a "Draft Environmental Impact Statement" (DEIS) in Kingsland, the public expressed grave concerns about the controversial "Spaceport Camden" proposal.

The DEIS is required under federal law, and must meet specific requirements for evaluating the proposed project. The report was prepared by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Due to fundamental flaws in evaluating hazards, many people object to the spaceport.

Likewise, on behalf of the Center for a Sustainable Coast, I firmly advise rejecting the DEIS and opposing the project.

The DEIS is negligently incomplete and misleading - and anything but objective. As drafted, it reveals flagrant omissions and biases, reaching completely unfounded conclusions.

Consider these examples:

- A hazardous landfill is regulated under federal and state law because of severely toxic materials buried on-site. Restrictions on the use of surrounding property – including a proposed launch area – are trivialized in the DEIS.

Profound questions about risks to public health/safety raised by the project remain unanswered. Disturbance of this area poses a significant threat to public health.

Learn more about a lethal chemical at the Camden site -

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/.../toxic-pesticide-banne.../>

- "Hazard areas" for rocket launching depicted in the DEIS are grossly understated and therefore very poorly evaluated. This deficient evaluation raises important unanswered questions about public safety, taxpayer burdens, and property rights.
- Protection and enjoyment of rare, legally designated Wilderness Area on Cumberland Island National Seashore would be violated by the project, yet the DEIS glosses over such impacts.

The DEIS demonstrates FAA's failure to meet important legal obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Through superficial, inadequate DEIS analysis, FAA misleads and misinforms, jeopardizing the public and our environment.

Individuals are encouraged to email concerns at [faacamdenpaceorteis@leidos.com](mailto:faacamdenpaceorteis@leidos.com) .

Unfortunately, the rampant deficiencies exposed in this DEIS are yet another instance in a national pattern of misinformation being advanced in the guise of legitimate analysis. The problem has become so disruptive of decisions important to protecting the public that a national campaign has been launched to confront it.

Those concerned about reliable use of science to make responsible decisions are encouraged to go to <https://www.ucsus.org/search/site/disinformation%20playbook#.Ws8l638h3IU>

### **SUBMITTING YOUR COMMENTS**

The FAA encourages all interested parties to provide comments concerning the Draft EIS by June 14, 2018.

Send comments by email to [faacamdenpaceorteis@leidos.com](mailto:faacamdenpaceorteis@leidos.com),

Or submit comments by mail to Ms. Stacey M. Zee, Environmental Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, c/o Leidos, 2109 Air Park Road SE, Suite 200, Albuquerque, NM 87106.